

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS***Soviet Union*

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

U.S. Deployment Freeze Proposal Assailed [Bogachev]	AA 1
NATO Urged To Stop 'Juggling' MBFR Numbers [Bogachev]	AA 1
U.S. Calls for Arms Dialogue 'Verbal Dust' [Kornilov]	AA 2
Goodby Remarks 'Evidence' of U.S. Aim at CDE	AA 3

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

CEMA Science Committee Meets in Prague 21-23 Mar	BB 1
Pact Forces Defend Socialism Against Reaction [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 16 Mar]	BB 1

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Andrianov, Volskiy, Nekrasov]	CC 1
USSR Nuclear Conduct Code	CC 1
U.S. Foreign Policy Flouted	CC 3
Lebanon's Groups at Lausanne	CC 4
U.S., USSR in Indian Ocean Basin	CC 5
'International Situation: Questions & Answers' [Lutsenko, Shakhnazarov]	CC 7
U.S. Election Campaign	CC 7
Lausanne, C. America, Mitterrand Visit Viewed [Kondrashov]	CC 9
Kissinger Plan To Reshape NATO Spurned [Kondrashov in IZVESTIYA 18 Mar]	CC 10
Spain's Foreign Minister on NATO Membership	CC 13

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Adelman Speech to House Subcommittee Castigated	A 1
U.S. Official Cited on Antimissile Systems	A 1
MX Deployment, Missile Defense Plans Viewed [Novikov]	A 1
Eagleburger, Other Resignations 'Leap-Frogging'	A 2
U.S. Commission on Strategic Forces Dissolved	A 2
USIA's Wick Blamed for Thwarting Cultural Ties [Tolkunov in PRAVDA 21 Mar]	A 2
Role of USIA 'Lies' in U.S. Foreign Policy Hit [Kornilov]	A 3
Discussion of U.S. Election Campaign, Relations [Yenikeyev]	A 4

CHINA

Gromyko, PRC's Qian Qichen Discuss Relations B 1
[PRAVDA 25 Mar]
Zhao-Nakasone Views on USSR Asian Buildup Denied B 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan Rejects Secretary Regan's 'New Demands' C 1
[Kharkov]
Okinawa Groups Protest Green Berets' Deployment C 1
USSR Gives Award to Japan-USSR Amity Group Head C 2
[Vykhukhalev]
DPRK State Planning Official in USSR for Talks C 3
Pyongyang Protests 23 Mar SR-71 'Provocation' C 3
MPR Seeks Amity, Not 'Interference', From PRC C 3
[IZVESTIYA 23 Mar]
Loan for S. Korea as Anticommunist Forward Base C 4

SOUTH ASIA

India Reviews USSR Ties, Regional Concerns D 1
[PRAVDA 22 Mar]
West Depicts Kashmir, Jammu as 'Non-Indian' Area D 1
[Vinogradov]
DRA Religious Leaders Back Revolution's Goals D 2
[Ustinov in IZVESTIYA 16 Mar]
Uzbek Experts Decorated With DRA Awards D 3

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

CPSU's Ryzhkov Confers With SRV's Vo Van Kiet E 1
[PRAVDA 22 Mar]
SRV Minister Thach's Visits to ASEAN Hailed E 1
NHAN DAN Says SRV's PRK Role 'Internal Affair' E 2
PRK, Cape Verde Establish Diplomatic Relations E 2
Australian Envoy Arrives in Moscow 21 Mar E 3
[IZVESTIYA 23 Mar]

EASTERN EUROPE

Strougal Speech on Missiles, Pact Peace Policy F 1
USSR, Romanian Trade Ministers Sign Agreement F 1
[PRAVDA 21 Mar]

WESTERN EUROPE

Reportage on Mitterrand's Talks With Reagan G 1
'Contradictions' in French Policy G 1
[Krivopalov in IZVESTIYA 22 Mar]
First Round of Talks G 2
Mitterrand Press Conference G 3
Conclusion of Discussions [Dunayev] G 4
Kohl Wrong About USSR Resuming Arms Talks G 4
Pentagon Seeks Expanded Facilities in Portugal G 5
[Nesterov in IZVESTIYA 21 Mar]

Cruise Missiles To Be Deployed in Italy 26 March	G 6
[Vybornov]	
Missiles Operational	G 6
U.S. 'Electronic Espionage Center' in Faroes	G 6
[Kostikov in PRAVDA 23 Mar]	
Weinberger Lectures Swedish Newsmen on USSR Subs	G 7
[Biryukov]	
Spain's King To Meet USSR 'Head of State' in May	G 7
[Madrid]	

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Conclusion of Lausanne Conference Noted	H 1
[Dunayev]	
Timoshkin on Positive Side	H 1
Hernu Announcement of Beirut Pullout Reported	H 2
Withdrawal Begins	H 2
Iraqi, Iranian Battle Communiques Cited	H 3
22 March Report	H 3
25 March Report	H 3
Cancellation of U.S. Missiles for Jordan Noted	H 3
Knesset Votes in Favor of Early Elections	H 4
Sudanese President Receives U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld	H 4
U.S. Accused of Fanning Anti-Libyan Hysteria	H 4
[Korzelev]	
History of Soviet-YAR Relations Reviewed	H 5
[Ibadov]	

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Ethiopia's Mengistu To Visit Late March	J 1
U.S. 'Fuels' Propaganda in Horn of Africa	J 1
[Vinogradov]	
S. African Treatment of Namibia Issue Hit	J 2
[Belkin]	
USSR, Congo Mark Anniversary of Diplomatic Ties	J 3
Cables Exchanged	J 3
[IZVESTIYA 22 Mar]	
Treaty Anniversary Hailed	J 3
[IZVESTIYA 17 Mar]	

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Soviet Naval Squadron To Visit Cuba 26 March	K 1
Cuba, Angola Rap S. Africa, U.S. Over Namibia	K 1
[Tarutin in PRAVDA 22 Mar]	
Grenada Revolution Anniversary Remembered	K 2
[Mostovets in PRAVDA 13 Mar]	
Materials Concerning Lugansk Tanker Incident	K 5
Guzhenko Comments	K 5
[IZVESTIYA 23 Mar]	
Lugansk Heading for USSR [Neych]	K 6
Mine Has 'Boomerang' Effect [Fesunenکو]	K 7
U.S. 'Slander, Lies' [Chernyshov]	K 8
El Salvador Election 'Farce', U.S. Aid Scorned	K 9
[Ignatyev]	

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Chernenko Opens Agro-Industrial Conference	R 1
Leningrad Obkom Personnel Changes Reported [LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Mar]	R 2
Udmurt ASSR Railroad Disaster Reported [IZVESTIYA 22 Mar]	R 3
Political Workers' Study Course Concludes [PRAVDA 16 Mar]	R 4
Armenian Party CC Plenum Concludes 7 Mar [SOVETAKAN AYASTAN 6 Mar]	R 5
Estonian CP Plenum Meets, Concludes 6 Mar [SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA 7 Mar]	R 6
Woman Found Guilty of Beating Militiaman	R 7
Briefs: Kara-Kalpak Dictionary	R 7

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

TV Roundtable on Nuclear Power Industry	S 1
Restoration of Gas After Earthquake Described	S 10
Briefs: Azerbaijan Oil Wells; Azerbaijan Chemical Fertilizers	S 10

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Agricultural Equipment Shortcomings Noted [Astakhov]	T 1
Agriculture Official Views Spring Preparations	T 1

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmonauts Conduct Medical, Servicing Tasks	U 1
Soviet, Indian Cosmonauts Arrive at Baykonur	U 1
Hydrographic Ship Concludes Research Cruise [AFP]	U 1

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet Army's 'Liberating Role' Explained [Morozov in TRUD 20 Mar]	V 1
Book on Army-Navy Collaboration Reviewed [Kostev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 17 Mar]	V 3
Readers Reply to Soldier's Letter From DRA [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 22 Mar]	V 5
Another Veteran's Treatment Decried [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Mar]	V 7

U.S. DEPLOYMENT FREEZE PROPOSAL ASSAILED

LD251239 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 25 Mar 84

["New Manoeuvres With Old Purposes" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

During the recent period certain Western observers and politicians, who are playing Washington's game of deceiving public opinion, have been trying to give legitimacy to the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe. To cover up their unseemly manoeuvres, they suggest that the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe be resumed on the condition of a temporary "freeze" on the deployment of U.S. missiles in European NATO countries.

The United States is known to have already deployed in West Germany and other NATO countries its cruise missiles and Pershings with a flight time of 6-12 minutes to vital targets in the U.S.S.R. These new first-strike nuclear weapons systems have a very destabilizing effect on the military-political situation on the continent. They are strategic in nature because they can reach targets in the territories of the U.S.S.R. and East European socialist countries while Soviet medium-range missiles are unable to reach the United States.

The resumption of the Geneva talks at the cost of renouncing the demand for the withdrawal of the U.S. missiles from Western Europe would mean encouragement of Washington's adventuristic actions, which lead to a dramatic rise in the level of armed confrontation and to the growing threat of a thermonuclear conflict on the continent.

It should not be overlooked either that the Reagan administration has institutionalized terrorism as state policy and, pursuing its course for overthrowing lawful governments, is creating new seats of confrontation and tension.

Unless the situation which existed before the beginning of the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe is recreated, the Geneva talks will be a cover for the U.S. continued course of seeking military superiority and subverting the principle of equality and equal security of the sides.

The U.S. side was blocking for over two years any progress at the Geneva talks, making patently inadmissible demands for the Soviet Union's unilateral disarmament. Statements of spokesmen for the U.S. Administration and Washington's practical actions in the field of nuclear arms in Europe today give no reason for hopes that the U.S. position at the talks may be revised.

The real way to talks and to the normalisation of the situation in Europe is offered by the withdrawal of the U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles from West Germany, Britain and Italy.

NATO URGED TO STOP 'JUGGLING' MBFR NUMBERS

LD251347 Moscow World Service in English 0910 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Talks on arms and troops reduction in central Europe have been resumed in Vienna. Military observer Vladimir Bogachev of TASS, the Soviet news agency, prepared a commentary in this connection.

The biggest army groups of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization confront each other in central Europe. This involves powerful armed forces equipped with dozens of thousands of tanks, thousands of planes, and large quantities of nuclear delivery vehicles. The general situation on the continent, including the area of central Europe, deteriorated when the United States had begun to deploy its new first strike nuclear weapons in West Germany, Italy, and Britain. The political-military situation in Europe gets seriously aggravated also as a result of the doctrinal precepts of the North Atlantic bloc. The leaders of NATO countries have emphasized that should any armed conflict flare up in the area they will be the first to use nuclear arms, even at the earliest phase of military actions.

Verbally the Western powers recognize the constructive nature of the new approach displayed by the socialist nations.

Nevertheless, at the previous round of talks they failed to give reply to the socialist community's proposal. Progress at the Vienna talks can be reached indeed if the NATO countries adopt the principle of equitable reductions and give up their juggling with the numerical problem. That is, if they display a genuine desire to seek mutually acceptable decisions.

U.S. CALLS FOR ARMS DIALOGUE 'VERBAL DUST'

LD211348 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The more apparent becomes the aggressive trend of the foreign policy of the United States, which is a source of growing alarm for the American and, particularly, for the European public, the more the United States Administration is willing to conceal or camouflage the essence of this dangerous policy. A fresh attempt at putting on "peace making" robes on the United States has been made by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Addressing a press conference in Washington, he claimed that the United States, which allegedly strives for arms control, was ready to return any time to the table of negotiations on strategic and "European" nuclear weapons. The USA is for a dialogue with the USSR, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Burt Echoed Shultz, speaking in Congress.

But what is behind the duet of the Washington "peace-makers"? Maybe, they in Washington have really made up their mind at long last to give up their negative stand and give a businesslike answer to the Soviet proposals on a freeze on nuclear arsenals or to the recent proposal by the Warsaw Treaty states on a non-increase and a reduction of military spendings? Maybe, they really wish to resume the dialogue in Geneva, and in this connection are prepared to return to the situation, which existed in Europe prior to the commencement of the deployment of American missiles?

This is by no means so. The attitude of the White House to any initiatives concerning the efforts to curb the arms race remains the same: Some of these initiatives are rejected by means of all sorts of far-fetched pretexts, others are hampered, still others remain unanswered...moreover, President Reagan has reiterated in his FRANCE-PRESSE AGENCY interview that the USA further intends to deploy Pershings and cruise missiles in Western Europe. General Rogers, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe, made it clear in his statement in Oslo that NATO will further adhere to the aggressive "first strike" concept.

It is well known that the Soviet Union is ready today, like it was yesterday, to resolve the problem of both strategic and "European" nuclear weapons on a constructive, mutually acceptable basis. Talks may resume any time, provided the USA removes obstacles, which it has created by the deployment of its new missiles in Europe. But this is precisely what the American Administration does not wish to do. It has turned its participation in the talks on curbing the arms race into a propaganda tool designed to serve as a cover for its own militaristic ambitions and the cold war policy. Albeit they in Washington do not stint "peace-making" statements because of time serving and, for that matter, election year considerations, it is more than obvious that the real policy of the United States is today, like it was yesterday, aimed at dealing with the Soviet Union from the position of strength, threats and pressure.

Such are the facts. They are evidence that the "striving for a dialogue", about which Shultz, Burt and other American statesmen talk, is no more than a propaganda gimmick, verbal dust thrown by them in the eyes in the futile hope of bringing down the wave of the growing concern of the peoples over Washington's militaristic policy.

GOODBY REMARKS 'EVIDENCE' OF U.S. AIM AT CDE

LD232137 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1403 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] New York, 23 Mar (TASS) -- The United States clearly does not intend adopting a constructive stance at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe. Evidence of this is a statement made by James Goodby, head of the U.S. delegation in Snockholm. Speaking at a New York press conference, he basically admitted that the U.S. aim is to distract the participants in the Stockholm forum from a discussion of principal issues, divert attention away from substantial measures to increase confidence and security, prevent nuclear war, and to bring about disarmament, and instead to foist a discussion of secondary problems on the participants. "We are not seeking large reductions in armaments," Goodby bluntly stated.

The head of the U.S. delegation extolled in every way the NATO proposals, the aim of which is certainly not to increase confidence and security but to provide an opportunity for the collection of information about various aspects of the socialist countries' defenses. At the same time he rejected the constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact member states, which really are aimed at improving the situation in Europe and throughout the world.

Without any substantiation, Goodby claimed that the proposal to conclude a treaty on mutual renunciation of military force and maintenance of peaceful relations "would not help to increase security." "We are already committed to the principle of not using force," he asserted, as if pretending that there had not been the massive U.S. armed aggression against tiny Grenada, as if the U.S. armed forces were not sowing death and destruction in Lebanon.

As far as the socialist countries' proposals on the reduction of military spending and the liberation of Europe from medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons and chemical weapons are concerned, the U.S. diplomat made it unambiguously clear that the United States does not even want them to be discussed at Stockholm.

CEMA SCIENCE COMMITTEE MEEETS IN PRAGUE 21-23 MAR

LD232127 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] The 30th session of the CEMA Committee on Scientific-Technical Cooperation was held in Prague on March 21-23. Taking part were representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and also Yugoslavia. The committee examined questions connected with drawing up an integrated long-term program for scientific-technical progress in CEMA countries. Measures were agreed for further developing cooperation in the fields of industrial robot technology and wide use of microprocessor technology, which is of priority importance to the national economies of the CEMA member countries.

PACT FORCES DEFEND SOCIALISM AGAINST REACTION

PM251710 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Mar 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Bulwark of Socialism"]

[Text] Prague, 15 Mar -- The Czechoslovak weekly TRIBUNA has published an article on the development of socialism at the modern stage, which states, in particular, that the creation of the world socialist system, the growing might of the Soviet Union and all the fraternal socialist countries, and the development of the revolutionary workers' and national liberation movement have changed the correlation of forces in the world. Imperialism is no longer capable of deciding mankind's destiny and determining the course of world events by its arbitrary actions. At the contemporary stage there are far more favorable conditions for implementing the Leninist policy of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems. Nevertheless, even now socialism and progressive forces must take measures to defend their gains.

The imperialist ruling circles, the article points out, have never abandoned their plans for liquidating socialism and halting social progress. Since the formation of the socialist countries imperialism has undertaken aggressive attacks and large-scale acts of subversion against them.

The defense of socialism's gains at the new stage has assumed a wider scale. It is now a question of the defense of all socialist countries in different regions. This defense is ensured by the armed forces of the socialist countries on an individual and collective basis, proceeding from the principles of proletarian, socialist internationalism. The Warsaw Pact Organization, created in response to the emergence of NATO, has become the chief instrument of socialism's collective defense in Europe.

In the face of the threat of war posed by imperialism the Warsaw Pact states have been forced, in addition to implementing the major creative tasks of building a developed socialist society, also to fulfill tasks in the defense sphere. The interests of defending socialism and peace requires us to possess a military complex no less strong than that which the imperialist states have, which, moreover, is developing very quickly under the influence of the scientific and technical revolution. If the forces of world reaction have not yet yielded to the temptation to try out their weapons on a world scale in the "crusade" against the forces of socialism and progress, this is a result of the great defense might and high combat readiness of the socialist community and, above all, the Soviet Union.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD251755 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 25 Mar 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Boris Andrianov, foreign political commentator of All-Union Radio; Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of editorial board of NOVOYE VREMYA; Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international affairs writer for KOMMUNIST]

USSR Nuclear Conduct Code

[Text] [Andrianov] I doubt there is any sober-minded person now who would not recognize in our atomic age and particularly in the present international situation, that there is no question more important and more vital than that of war or peace. This is not a rhetorical question but reality! This is a vital issue which mankind faces at present because the threat of a nuclear disaster is evident more and more. Nuclear arsenals are growing at an unprecedented speed. Weapons of mass destruction are being perfected more and more, and furthermore, they are threatening to appear in new areas. American strategists are doing their best to find new concepts of a nuclear blitz war and new types of superior weapons. In this situation, the urgent necessity arises for mankind: to stop the ideological and material preparation for a nuclear war as fast as possible. This is not a simple task and it is not easy to solve. However, as Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said in his pre-election speech, it is difficult to find any one problem important to the strengthening of peace for which the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have not made concrete and realistic proposals in recent years.

[Nekrasov] And in the complex of those proposals which were put forward in the speech to the electors on 2 March the central place belongs to the proposal on the norms of conduct for nuclear powers. This initiative -- the proposal to other nuclear powers to agree on common recognition of principles which they have to incorporate as the basis of their policy to make nuclear war impossible, removing its threat from the life of mankind -- this initiative has already been in the focus of attention of world public for more than 3 weeks.

[Andrianov] I would remind you that this means: first of all, to consider the prevention of nuclear war to be the main aim of the foreign policy, to prevent situations fraught with a nuclear conflict, and in the case of such a danger developing to hold urgent consultations to prevent the flaring up of a nuclear holocaust. Second, to reject the propaganda of nuclear war in any form, on global scale or limited. Third, to undertake a pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Fourth, under no circumstances use nuclear weapons against nonnuclear countries which have no such weapons on their territory; to respect the status of nonnuclear zones already set up and to encourage the creation of new nonnuclear zones in various regions of the world. Fifth, not to allow the proliferation of nuclear weapons in any form, not to hand over these weapons to anybody or to give anybody control over them; and not to deploy them on territories of countries which do not have them; not to bring the nuclear arms race to new spheres, including space. And it is proposed in the conclusion of this list of such principles and norms, step by step, on the basis of equal security, to strive for the reduction of nuclear weapons right up to the complete liquidation of all kinds. This is the Soviet initiative on the code of conduct in relations between nuclear powers.

[Nekrasov] For those commentators who are realistic and have common sense, this proposal is the best evidence of the sincerity and seriousness of the approach of the Soviet Union towards questions of restraint of the nuclear arms race.

[Volskiy] In any case, the Soviet Union, as we know, long ago laid these principles into the basis of its policy and is observing them strictly. Our country, Comrade Chernenko stresses, as a great socialist power, is fully aware of its responsibility to the people for the preservation and strengthening of peace. But now the task is also for other powers which have nuclear weapons at their disposal to recognize their responsibility, and not only recognize it, but also draw from it necessary practical conclusions.

[Nekrasov] Experience shows that it is not easy to convince them about this. However, the same experience shows that it is feasible. In the end, as Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko noted, there are reasons to hope that it will be possible to direct the course of events again towards the strengthening of peace, the limitation of the arms race and the development of international cooperation. We cannot, of course, disregard the fact that nuclear weapons, as the trump card in the struggle against socialism and national-liberation movements, have been a most important component of the military-political strategy of American imperialism for nearly four decades.

[Andrianov] Concerning this, Vadim Nikolayevich, I would like to quote the West German progressive magazine BLAETTER FUER DEUTSCHE UND INTERNATIONALE POLITIK. Here is what it wrote: Washington is still hoping to find a recipe which would enable it to achieve superiority over the Soviet Union and to gain a victory. In this, in particular, is the sharp danger of self-destruction of mankind, not to mention the numerous possibilities of war being started by mistake.

[Nekrasov] Yes, indeed. However, on the other hand, in that same America, and even more so in West Europe, the number of those who recognize all the perils of the path onto which mankind is being pushed by nuclear maniacs from the Pentagon is increasing. There have always been such people, one must say. I read again a few days ago the famous speech delivered by President John Kennedy at a U.S. university. The speech was delivered in June 1963, that is more than 20 years ago. Here is what he said then: War has a new face. Nuclear war has no sense at all in the age when great powers can possess vast and comparatively invulnerable nuclear forces. A man who held the post of U.S. defense secretary under Kennedy, I am referring to Robert McNamara, thus a person who knows what he is talking about, wrote a month ago in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES: We, -- that is America, that is its political leadership -- have to admit that no military solutions can be achieved with the help of nuclear weapons, and the threat of nuclear war is unacceptable for America itself.

[Volskiy] After all, Vadim Nikolayevich, one of Reagan's predecessors, also a Republican, namely President Nixon, arrived at the same conclusion at Kennedy, and in 1973 concluded an agreement with the Soviet Union on prevention of nuclear war. In those days Washington did not say, as it is doing at present, that similar declarations, as they say, are not necessary because they are in the UN Charter which already proclaims the rejection of the use of force.

[Nekrasov] And I would like to say, no matter what they are discussing in Washington at present, the mood, the atmosphere which compelled Nixon to agree to the signing of this agreement which you have mentioned, and which was put forward by Moscow, this mood is also alive today. And furthermore, it is expressed far more strongly in the anti-nuclear movement of the general public both in West Europe and in America. Events are proving that the presidential election campaign which started in the United States is taking place to a greater and greater degree as a struggle around these questions.

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, and what do you think about practical ways of implementation of that initiative put forward by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko? In what ways could, in your opinion, events leading to its implementation develop?

(Nekrasov) Well, there is no doubt that today we are, so to speak, at the beginning of the road, a long road, moreover, and by no means a smooth one. A struggle lies ahead, in which all peace-loving forces of the planet should participate, for the implementation of the norms of behavior proposed by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, or for the code of behavior of nuclear powers, as these norms may be called. One cannot fail to note the very great significance of our country's unilateral peace-loving initiatives, nor the influence of the strength of example which the USSR is exerting on the international public. One can imagine that the implementation of our new initiative might be carried out in stages, beginning -- let us say -- with a simple step, which suggests itself, like a freeze on all nuclear arsenals, or a decision to set up, and then extend nuclear-free zones. Many paths exist here, and it is difficult to try and predict the future now, there is no need. One thing is clear. Peace belongs to all peoples, and all individuals. The threat of nuclear destruction hangs over everybody, and nobody, therefore has the right to claim that the prevention of nuclear war is supposedly the business of the great powers and their governments alone. No, it is the business of the entire world community of people.

U.S. Foreign Policy Flouted

[Volskiy] Vadim Nikolayevich, we have been talking quite a lot today about the significance of international treaties, and of international law in general, but where the United States is concerned, its policy is evidence of the fact that a major struggle must be waged to introduce healthy principles into international relations, and, generally speaking, simply for respect of ordinary legal norms, because in the so-called peripheral regions, especially those which the United States regards as zones of its own so-called vital interests, the Americans behave on the whole as if no norms existed. They have effectively established long-term occupation of Honduras, under the guise of maneuvers. From there bands are sent into Nicaragua, and from there the United States exerts pressure on El Salvador.

[Nekrasov] I think that, the resort to folk wisdom, we may say that in Central America today Washington is sowing the wind, but it will certainly reap the whirlwind.

[Volskiy] And in essence this is already happening in the Near East. The so-called redeployment of the U.S. Marines from Lebanon, the abrogation of the agreement with Israel which had been imposed on Lebanon, all this has quite swiftly had an effect on the general situation in the Near East Region. You know from the papers, comrades, about the statement by King Husayn of Jordan, who are severely critical of the U.S. Administration's policy in the Near East. This of course is particularly distressing of the administration, since the Jordanian monarchy is one of those states which the United States had counted on relying upon in the Arab world. We may also add that in the conservative monarchical regimes in the Arab states of the Persian Gulf, including Saudi Arabia, dissatisfaction with U.S. policy is growing as well, particularly now, in the election year, when the Reagan government is doing everything to demonstrate its sponsorship of Israel in the hope of enlisting, perhaps not so much the Jewish vote, but the support of influential Zionist circles. The point is that these are traditionally on the side of the Democratic Party and always have been. But in the last election, in 1980, Reagan succeeded to some extent in surmounting, in shaking this tendency, and now he is again counting on this.

[Andrianov] Dmitriy Antonovich, the fact that the White House, despite its failure in Lebanon, is continuing to back Israel's aggressive policy in that country may also be related to election considerations.

Lebanon's Groups at Lausanne

[Volskiy] And this line, Boris Vasiliyevich, is turning out to be a continuation of the serious disasters that have befallen the Lebanese. Last week, this was really very plain to see. In the quiet, cozy Swiss town of Lausanne, far from the gunfire and bloodshed, endless sessions were held at the conference to settle Lebanon's internal problems, the conference for national reconciliation in Lebanon. The leaders of the various religious-political groupings in Lebanon were trying to draft a document which would, in principle, not only put an end to the civil war, but also guarantee the equality of Lebanese citizens.

Let me remind you that the essence of the matter is as follows: since the forties a so-called "confessional system" has existed in Lebanon, under which all posts in the government, the army, parliament, and the state apparatus are allocated according to the principle of religious denomination, and the majority of these posts are allotted to the Maronite Christians. On the whole, the Lebanese Maronite are representatives of the privileged strata of society, the bourgeoisie, the land-owners, lawyers, doctors, and so on. However, they now form a relatively small part of the Lebanese population. In recent years their proportion has declined, while the proportion of Muslims in the Lebanese population, and above all of Sunni Muslims, who as a rule have particularly large families, has increased, and rough calculations show that the Muslims now comprise approximately 65 percent of the country's population. At the same time, the Muslims, especially the Shi'ite Muslims, have always been the most impoverished group of Lebanese society. The Shi'ites have a high proportion of illiterates. They have done the dirtiest jobs, and under the country's confessional system of government they were allotted a far-from-honorable position, to put it mildly. And now the Shi'ite leaders, above all the Amal movement, are resolutely demanding equality, just like the Muslim Druze and many representatives of the Sunni denomination of Islam, and the Christian communities -- the Greeks, the Armenians, and even a substantial number of Maronites, all of whom are demanding a thorough-going review of the obsolete confessional system, and the establishment in Lebanon of a secular state, and this tendency is meeting with quite strong opposition, it must be said, armed opposition, from the more warlike element of the Maronites' armed organizations in Lebanon. By provoking war they are striving to preserve at all costs the privileged position of the Maronite community.

On the other hand, among the Muslims too there are groupings propounding extremist slogans, such as, for example, that of the so-called Islamic revolution in Lebanon, and the introduction in the country of a system of ancient Islamic laws, which is of course impossible in a state in which a substantial part of the population consists of Christians. And finally calls are being heard for the effective division of the country into minute independent or semi-independent cantons.

[Nebrasov] It is of course, Israel that is persistently striving for the division of Lebanon. The ruling circles of that country clearly calculate that they will be able to keep the picket-sized states under control.

[Volskiy] They are now talking openly about this, and do not forget that another consideration of the Israeli leadership, in addition, is linked with plans to divide Lebanon -- that of strengthening their military positions, consolidating them, even making them permanent. Do not forget that one third of the territory of Lebanon, as far as the Al-Awali River is in the south of the country, is occupied, as before, by the Israeli Army, which also remains in the Al-Biqa' Valley, and while the Lausanne conference was in progress it carried out more than one raid beyond the Al-Awwali River, and of course this is no accident.

In this way the Israeli leadership was letting it be understood that it does not accept and will not accept true national reconciliation in Lebanon, let alone any democratic transformation of Lebanon. And judging by some increasingly disturbing reports, Tel Aviv could even go as far as a new war in order to attempt to defeat the formations of national-patriotic forces in Lebanon. But how might this end? After all, the Lebanese national patriotic forces are not alone. Syria is in solidarity with them, supporting them, and therefore the temptation to strike at the Lebanese national-patriotic formations holds a risk of aggression against Syria. And all this shows that internecine wars -- I have in mind both the Iran-Iraq war and the civil war in progress in Lebanon are particularly dangerous.

U.S., USSR in Indian Ocean Basin

[Andrianov] Dmitriy Antonovich, now that the Reagan administration has drawn over 30 U.S. warships into the Persian Gulf zone, it is not simply showing its military fist there. Such a deliberate, demonstrative gesture should undoubtedly be seen in its broader aspect. By concentrating a naval armada in the Persian Gulf area, Washington has in essence embarked upon its latest attempt to realize its designs aimed at strengthening the U.S. military presence in the whole Indian Ocean basin. The U.S. imperialists have declared these world waters, as well as the Near East and Southeast Asia, a new, third, **strategic zone of military confrontation with the USSR.**

[Volskiy] The first strategic zone is Europe, and the second is the Far East region.

[Andrianov] Yes, quite right, Dmitriy Antonovich. The powers-that-be in the United States are making blatant attempts to turn the Indian Ocean into an arena of direct military confrontation between imperialism, world socialism and national-liberation movements. All this had led to the Indian Ocean's becoming a zone of military tension. The source of this tension is well-known. It is the United States' militarist expansion, which moreover has assumed a particularly dangerous scale under the Reagan administration, which continues to increase more and more U.S. military might in this region. For instance, the total number of U.S. warships in the Indian Ocean has increased almost five times in the past 4 years. Over 5 years, the Pentagon has allocated \$30 billion for the further militarization of this water basin. The main role in the strategic assimilation of the Indian Ocean is being assigned to the United States' naval and air forces. For several years now, 1 or 2 multi-purpose strike aircraft-carriers with support ships, 2 missile cruisers, 2 or 3 multi-purpose nuclear submarines, up to 10 destroyers and frigates, landing craft with Marines, and floating bases with heavy armaments have been located there on a permanent basis. At the present time, more than 40 American warships ply the waters of this part of the globe. It is important to note that the aircraft-carriers and submarines among them have nuclear warheads on board. To add to that, American B-52 strategic bombers patrol the airspace over the Indian Ocean. They are carriers of mass destruction weapons.

However, as one can see, all this is not enough for the militarists from Washington. They are drawing up plans for a new stage of military expansion in the Indian Ocean zone. What is involved, in particular, is the intention to deploy American Pershing II medium-range nuclear missiles in certain countries on the Indian Ocean seaboard, and long-range sea- and air-based cruise missiles on ships and aircraft. These plans involve spreading out even further the network of American military installations in the region, although even now the Pentagon has three dozen bases scattered around the perimeter of the Indian Ocean. Washington does not conceal the fact that it is counting on acquiring bases on, for instance, the island of Sri Lanka, in Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Comoro Islands and the Maldives. The center of the huge militarist complex set up by the Pentagon in the Indian Ocean is -- as you know -- the strategic base on the island of Diego Garcia, which is known as an unsinkable U.S. nuclear aircraft-carrier.

Last year alone, more than \$1 billion were spent on modernizing the base. Now, another \$500 million have been allocated. While increasing its own military presence in the Indian Ocean, the United States is supplementing this with the rearmament of the states of the region which have military ties with Washington. As was stated on this score by the HOLIDAY weekly, published in Bangladesh, Washington is reckoning on involving countries on the Indian Ocean seaboard in military alliances. It is from this angle, stressed the magazine, that the steep increase -- by almost \$8 billion a year -- in financial injections to the so-called countries "friendly" to the United States must be viewed. And indeed, shipments of modern American weapons worth many thousands of millions have laterly been going to the Indian Ocean area.

[Volskiy] It should be added here, Boris Vasilyevich, that the Pentagon also has at its disposal its principal direct instrument, so to speak, which is directly intended to put pressure on the countries of the Indian Ocean basin and to undertake armed interference in their affairs -- the so-called Rapid Deployment Force. They are crack troops, set up for use above all in the north-western part of the Indian Ocean. The overall operational control of the U.S. military activity in this region has been exercised since 1983 by a central command specially established in that year. Its job is to be responsible for an enormous zone which stretches across the extensive area of the Indian Ocean and the territory of 19 states in south and south-west Asia, the Near East and north-east and east Africa. And the Rapid Deployment Force comes under this Central Command.

[Andrianov] This sort of scale speaks eloquently for itself. The U.S. militarist activity in the Indian Ocean is part of the global strategy of the Reagan administration to build up armaments in order to attain military supremacy worldwide. These schemes of Washington's dictate its efforts of many years to prevent the holding of an international UN conference on the Indian Ocean, which would promote the transformation of that water basin into a zone of peace. The key issue on the path of achieving this end is the elimination of all foreign bases there and the prevention of new ones being established. The creation of a zone of peace of this kind must be accompanied by a pledge to respect the sovereignty of the states on the Indian Ocean seaboard, including the sovereignty over their natural resources.

[Nekrasov] In this connection, it is important, I think, to recall once again that the Soviet Union energetically supports both the very concept of a zone of peace, and the proposal for an international conference on the Indian Ocean. At the same time, our country resolutely rejects the proposition that great power rivalry, so-called, is the source of tension in the Indian Ocean.

[Andrianov] Such an interpretation is not merely lacking in objectivity, but it, additionally, has an overt anti-Soviet bias. Behind it is concealed an obvious attempt to equate the actions of the United States and those of the Soviet Union in the Indian Ocean, under the pretext that our country -- so the reasoning goes -- also has its ships there. However, if you make a sober assessment of the facts, can you really fail to note, first, that the Soviet military presence in the basin is very small in scale; second, that it has been forced on the Soviet Union in the sense that it is a necessary countermeasure to the United States' naval and air forces in the region; and, third, that the Soviet warships there are of an operational-tactical type that provide no grounds for even talking of the possibility of their being used against states on the Indian Ocean seaboard? And -- something of special importance, of course -- the Soviet Union steadfastly supports the withdrawal from the Indian Ocean of all naval and air forces not belonging to the seaboard states which are there on a permanent basis, and is prepared to do this itself, as long as the condition of reciprocity is observed.

[Volskiy] It seems to me, Boris Vasilyevich, that one should also add that the Indian Ocean is the sole sea route between the east and west of our country which does not freeze over.

[Andrianov] Quite so. And our country, naturally, does not deny that it has its state interests in the Indian Ocean region. These interests, however, not only in no measure contradict the idea of a zone of peace, but are totally in accord with this concept. And it is all the more the case that our interest has nothing in common with the United States claims to a so-called zone of vital interests. For the Soviet Union it is not at all a matter of indifference whether the Indian Ocean is an arena of peaceful coexistence of states, or whether it becomes a region of confrontation. The establishment of a zone of peace in the region, which is not all that distant from the southern borders of the Soviet Union, would unquestionably promote a strengthening of our country's security, and, conversely, the whipping up of tension in the area and the extension there of the military presence of the United States and other nonseaboard states would increase the threat to the security of the Soviet Union from the south. For this reason, both from the point of view of the campaign for the extension of military detente to various parts of the world, and from the point of view of its national interests, the Soviet Union consistently supports the idea of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

On that note, we come to the end of our roundtable meeting today. All those taking part thank you for your attention, esteemed comrade listeners. Goodbye and all the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD231624 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 23 Mar 84

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Nikolay Lutsenko (not further identified), with Dr Georgiy Shakhnazarov, president of the Soviet Association of Political Sciences]

[Excerpts] [Lutsenko] Georgiy (Khafronovich), on the eve of and during the elections in the West, the candidates for the supreme state posts and legislative bodies give a whole number of obviously unfulfillable promises. How would you assess the correlation of good intentions, open demagoguery and actual political changes in conditions of so-called bourgeois democracy?

[Shakhnazarov] Indeed, Nikolay Ivanovich, the whole election system in the bourgeois states is built on unfulfilled -- or, more precisely, unfulfillable -- promises. It is not a matter of pre-election promises in themselves, not able to be fulfilled; one may have the desire to do a great deal, if not everything. But the representatives of the bourgeois parties have no real desire to go out and meet the requirements of the population. They say a lot of fine things to the voters in order to win their mandates, but once they achieve their goal they forget all about their promises until the next elections.

[Lutsenko] Georgiy (Khafronovich), what do you think one can say that in its pre-election campaign the Reagan administration is putting its stakes on chauvinism and supercharging militaristic psychosis?

U.S. Election Campaign

[Shakhnazarov] The election campaign in the United States is a marathon which lasts nearly a year, but it could be cut down. Individual candidates could find certain times suitable to demonstrate their love for peace in order to appease alarmed voters.

But, on the whole, Reagan came to power by fanning militaristic psychosis and his staff continues to place its stakes on publicizing the President as a strong and firm politician who has allegedly brought back the might and self-respect America had lost. I think they will continue to do exactly the same in this campaign, too. Of course, this sort of propaganda plays on the nationalistically-minded American man-in-the-street. In the eyes of this part of the population, Reagan's chances took a sharp leap following the invasion of Grenada. A chauvinist likes to feel a conqueror.

There is a different reaction, of course, from peoples of a progressive nature. There are simply millions of sober-minded Americans; they fear increasingly that the present administration is dragging the country into war, and it is not only in America that the President has this reputation. In the words of a Canadian journalist, the people in European countries believe in the majority that under Reagan the threat of war is no less than that under Genghis Khan.

In order to smooth over such an impression and to depict himself as a standard-bearer of peace, Reagan made a big speech in which he talks about Soviet-American relations, and about how countries should live in the future. Listeners will already know about this and subsequent speeches, their contents have been summarized in our press. Quite a few words can be found there designed to create an image of the President, if not of a peace champion then at least of a very wide man who realizes that the world is a place of sanctity, that it must be protected and that whether the United States likes it or not somehow it will have to work together with the Soviet Union. And, of course, one could only welcome this if it was spoken sincerely. Unfortunately, if you analyze the President's pronouncements for what they are, they contain not one iota of retreat from the United States' bellicose course in relations to the USSR. Even admitting that we must protect our common home -- the planet earth -- Reagan puts a whole number of conditions on it, the fulfillment of which would mean that the Soviet Union should renounce its principles and surrender to the United States on all key questions of international policy.

[Lutsenko] Tell me, Georgiy (Khafronovich), how do the personal qualities of the candidates influence the course and the outcome of the elections?

[Shakhnazarov] The presence of what is customarily described as a charismatic leader is a very significant factor, that is an attractive personality. It is a matter of both his oratorical abilities and of his external attractiveness, his charm and his ability to find a common tongue with the voters. Each class puts forward its own leaders and the success of the political parties and movements depends to no small degree on their personal abilities. Of course, Nikolay Ivanovich, it is one thing to be a personality and another to know how to present oneself, or even to sell oneself to the voters. The latter is particularly characteristic of the American political system. Our radio listeners know of many examples of certain candidates resorting, in the chase for the electors' votes, to the cheapest gimmicks, even going so far as promising to eat their own hats.

[Lutsenko] Yes, indeed. You were saying that many candidates try to sell themselves. This is particularly characteristic of the United States, where the whole political philosophy is built on questions of buying and selling, and frequently election campaigns really do take on such a farcical nature.

LAUSANNE, C. AMERICA, MITTERKAND VISIT VIEWED

LD251945 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Mar 84

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by IZVESTIYA political observer Stanislav Kondrashov]

[Excerpt] Hello, comrades. Last week an event took place which, we must confess in penitence, was not sufficiently commented upon by political observers. This concerned all peoples living in the northern hemisphere of our earth. You probably guess what we're talking about: day has overcome night, the light has become more plentiful than the dark, we have left behind the days of the spring equinox and are facing the powerful April advance of the spring. In international life, as opposed to cosmic life, there is not such a clear order, such a deployment of light and dark or of their shadows.

So it happened that out of the 7 days of the week the most significant one, from the viewpoint of earthly events, was probably Tuesday, 20 March. In two cities, in particular, it registered two failures. One failure was in Brussels where presidents and prime ministers of the West European economic Ten had gathered. They went their way without announcing any joint document, to the sound of talk about a sick Europe.

The other failure was in Lausanne where on Tuesday the second stage of the Conference on National Reconciliation in Lebanon ended after days of work. The question on the agenda was -- and still is -- that the Muslims who now constitute over half of the Lebanese population should strengthen their positions in the organs of power where, according to the constitution in force, the commanding heights are in the hands of the Christians. The leaders of Lebanon's political and religious groupings in Lausanne agreed mainly only on meeting again for the third round, and on not shooting at each other in the interim, to the extent to which this is possible.

I shall come back to the Brussels meeting in greater detail, but in the meantime I shall deal with yet another event of last Tuesday. On 20 March the Soviet tanker Lugansk hit a mine and received damage at the approaches to the Nicaraguan Port of Sandino. In the course of this, a few of our compatriots, members of the tanker's crew, were wounded. Luckily, the explosion occurred under a dry hold, which prevented a disaster. And so, a peaceful Soviet ship, in a time of peace, hit an American mine near the shores of Nicaragua.

On Wednesday, 21 March, Comrade Gromyko presented a diplomatic note to the U.S. charge d'affaires in the USSR, in which the Soviet Government placed the responsibility for this grave crime, act of brigandage and piracy on the United States. In this note, the U.S. policy toward Nicaragua was defined as that of state terrorism. As you know, this state terrorism has for a long time been put into practice on land. Mercenary gangs who are trained, armed and directed by CIA agents, are in action against Nicaragua from the territory of Honduras.

Terrorism from time to time rises into the air, and there have already been cases of American helicopters with American pilots being shot down over Nicaraguan territory. Now the United States with its mercenaries increasingly often engages in piracy on sea near the Nicaraguan shores, in an attempt to set up a blockade.

NEWSWEEK magazine writes about a new bold campaign of the Reagan administration aimed at building up military power in Central America.

Bold is an unfelicitous and inexact word: words like aggressive, reckless and adventurist would have been more precise. But the facts related by the American magazine do not need any correction, and I would like to quote them. Here is what it writes: In the past months the Pentagon has created throughout Honduras a network of runways, stores of supplies and training camps. From this base, the administration is planning to conduct a more active action, supplying those who fight against the Nicaraguan Government with helicopters, sea mines and possibly even T-28 fighter planes. The major Nicaraguan ports are mined in order to hamper the development of the country's foreign trade. A few ships have already suffered from mines and other explosive devices. How did Washington react to the "Lugansk" incident? It could not deny the U.S. connection with the mining of Nicaraguan waters. At the same time, essentially -- and very cynically -- it is proposing that other states should submit to the piracy on the part of the United States and its henchmen and should keep their ships away from Nicaraguan ports.

In the spring the higher the sun, the shorter the shadows. In international life, speaking metaphorically, the role of the sun is played by international law. Without it there is the darkness and impenetrability of the jungle. But Washington puts itself above international law, and this casts shadows which are, indeed, long and somber. Now here, now there, now in the Persian Gulf, now by the Lebanese shores, the Americans suddenly introduce restrictions on movements in international sea and air space. And now there are the mines -- and there are more and more of them -- by the shores of Nicaragua. The U.S. lawless tyranny and all-permissiveness are trying the endurance and patience of other states. It is a game with fire -- an extremely dangerous game when it touches upon the relations between the two powers, the United States and the USSR.

Incidentally, the situation in Central America was discussed during the visit to the United States by Mitterrand, President of France. Washington is inviting Paris, and other Western states, to join the policy of a very considerable pressure -- these are Reagan's words -- on Nicaragua. France is not responding to this invitation. In general, last week was busy for President Mitterrand. On Monday and Tuesday he was chairing the session of the European Community Council, on Wednesday he crossed the Atlantic, and on Thursday and Friday had meetings with President Reagan in the White House.

Overseas, the French president would have, of course, liked to speak on behalf of the whole of West Europe, but the failure in Brussels have deprived him of such an opportunity.

KISSINGER PLAN TO RESHAPE NATO SPURNED

PM251646 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Mar 84 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Stanislav Kondrashov "Political Observer's Opinion" article: "Where Should Wisdom Be Sought?"]

[Text] After George Shultz's reputation was thoroughly shaken by the defeat of U.S. diplomacy (and of the U.S. Marines) in Lebanon, there were rumors that Henry Kissinger might again become U.S. Secretary of State. With two "provisos" -- provided that Reagan is reelected for a second term in November, and, of course, provided that he offers this post to a man whom he kept at a distance for so long, but whom it now appears he is bringing closer to himself.

Kissinger left the post of secretary of state more than 7 years ago, but he has remained in the public eye during this time. A man of uncommon intellect and great energy, he has fully retained the quality which is equally important in an actor and in a politician -- the ability to choose the right place and the right time for making arousing speeches that attract the public. Should any doubts have appeared on this score, they were once again dispersed by the publication of a lengthy article by Kissinger in a recent edition of the U.S. weekly TIME. The article under the headline "A Plan to Reshape NATO" has provoked lively interest and discussions among West European and U.S. politicians.

The article is interesting by virtue of its admissions and its proposals, and no less because of its general spirit. Officially, NATO is now chalking up cohesion among its assets, cohesion which has allegedly made it possible, despite the resistance of the antiwar movement, to start siting U.S. nuclear missiles in West Europe. However, under this veneer of well-being, Kissinger sees that "the present arguments within NATO are unprecedented and alarming at the same time." There is unwillingness rather than a desire to define relations within the alliance. Even conservatives in West Europe are worried about the "bellicose and thick-skinned United States" and about the excessively low "nuclear threshold" set by present U.S. strategy. The attitude to U.S. missiles "is basically that of a host toward an unwanted guest whose invitation to dinner it would be too dangerous to withdraw." The author of the article is furthermore bothered by the fact that during the 35 years of the existence of NATO, the West European "hosts" have developed a strong reflex of subordination to their U.S. "guest" and the "new generation" of leaders, which has imbibed this reflex with their mother's milk, cannot conceive of a different situation, and finds it "politically convenient" to shift all concern for "Europe's defense" onto the United States.

These, in brief, are the admissions and they make sense. Kissinger is also critical of the "dangerous instability" of Washington's foreign policy. And what is the outcome? Discord among the NATO elite, a trend toward pacifism and neutrality among the masses, and a growing demoralization of the Western alliance.

Kissinger reaches the conclusion that "what is needed is an unambiguous act of true statesmanlike wisdom to impart new meaning to the West's unity, and new viability to NATO." The source of the necessary wisdom he finds in particular in himself, and proposes "three components for a restructuring": Enhancing Europe's role in NATO, reorganizing NATO's structure, and reappraising the present deployment of NATO weapons. To enhance Europe's role and reorganize the structure, he proposes to replace the U.S. general in the post of NATO Supreme Allied Commander with a European general and let the Americans have instead the post of NATO Secretary General, currently held by West Europe. The redeployment of weapons which he proposes envisages "no change" in naval force deployments, a strengthening -- "as far as possibilities allow" -- of land-based U.S. air power in West Europe, it leaves U.S. ground forces intact, and, to end with, retains the Pershings and the Tomahawks "for the purpose of coupling the nuclear defenses on both sides of the Atlantic."

What is the main point of this plan for reshaping NATO? It is the strengthening by West Europe of its "nonnuclear ground defense." By 1990 it is to assume "main responsibility" for this defense. Kissinger has understood that the West Europeans' nuclear fears are provoked by NATO's strategy which envisages the first use of nuclear weapons in the early stages of an East-West armed conflict. In order to remove these fears and to raise the "nuclear threshold" he therefore advocates a buildup and consolidation of the West European NATO members' conventional armed forces, while retaining, however, the U.S. nuclear missiles for the purpose of "coupling."

West Europe relies too much on the United States, and the United States relies too much on nuclear weapons. These two kinds of dependence have existed for decades and have culminated in an impasse which is now more obvious than ever. The allies of the United States have been assigned the role of Washington's helpless nuclear hostages -- this is the fruit borne by many years of "defense" efforts on the part of the West. Internal fears are undermining NATO and threatening to blow it apart. So what way out of the impasse is Kissinger proposing? Despite all the claims which he lays to statesmanlike wisdom, he is seeking a way out in the direction where it has long been sought in vain -- in the direction of the further militarization of West Europe -- more soldiers, more arms, and more money for both.

Although the former U.S. secretary of state is surrounding himself with an aura of a profound political thinker, the spirit of common militarism wafts from the pages of his article.

And here, let us take a look at what has been left out of the article. It holds out no prospect of peace. It contains no constructive alternative which credits the other side -- the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries -- with any good intentions. Kissinger is not proposing a different, more serious and honest approach to East-West talks, nor a quest for mutual understanding and confidence in the common interests of peace and security, nor the least manifestation of good will and a desire for cooperation. No, his remedies for NATO have been concocted according to the old recipes of hardline confrontation which hold out no hope for curing chronic ailments. A still higher level of military confrontation in Europe, where the new U.S. missiles are supplemented by improved West European "nonuclear defense" -- this is Kissinger's vision of the nineties with the "reshaped" NATO.

Politically, of course, he is too sophisticated and smart to brand the other side with the label of "the empire of evil," but in essence his entire "reshaping plan" is conceived against the same background and even has the same basis as that concept, if you pardon the term.

Meanwhile the statesmanlike wisdom which he is calling for demands sobriety in assessments and boldness of action, and not accommodation of extreme conservative views and of the stupid anti-Soviet myths which -- owing to election considerations -- even Reagan's Washington is beginning to find somewhat embarrassing. There is no harm in recalling the recent past. In 1979 Kissinger, by his speeches on the topic of the holes in the nuclear umbrella over West Europe, contributed to the NATO "two-track decision" being pushed through. Now, 4 years later, when the "two-track decision has brought the Pershings and the Tomahawks to West Europe, he has again moved into the foreground to preach another round of the arms race -- conventional arms race. How about that for a suitable propaganda gambit for the latest round of talks on the mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe which have resumed in Vienna!

"As confidence in judgements of the United States dwindles, the impression is formed, more strongly than ever, that the Europeans are looking for an alternative of their own," the well known U.S. historian Arthur Schlesinger, a former colleague of Kissinger's in the academic world, wrote recently after visiting the other side of the Atlantic. The search for an alternative is bound to continue. It will continue despite the fact that -- as Schlesinger correctly remarked -- West Europe "still lacks the will to become truly independent of the United States."

Where will this search lead? People in West Europe did not much believe in the bugaboo into which zealous U.S. propaganda men have turned the Soviet Union.

They have always valued detente more highly than the other side of the Atlantic -- detente and what remains of it after the U.S. onslaughts. But alas, in this respect, too, West Europe lacks self-reliance and independence. Where, then, can this self-reliance and independence, and likewise the statesmanlike wisdom be found? Is it really along the militarist path of "nonnuclear defense" against an opponent who has no intention of attacking. Or, rather, in political realism which presupposes an ability soberly to assess the long experience of coexistence which, though none too easy was nevertheless peaceful. It would not be a bad thing if, from positions of such self-reliant political realism, West European capitals took a long look at the well-known initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries which are dictated by a genuine desire for peace, cooperation and security in Europe.

And in doing so they did not succumb to the calls of the sirens that sing about "Europe's enhanced role." When examined more closely, some of these sweet-sounding sirens begin to look more like the bulls at the slaughterhouse that entice those who are prepared to follow them mindlessly along the path to death.

SPAIN'S FOREIGN MINISTER ON NATO MEMBERSHIP

LD252152 Moscow TASS in English 2029 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Madrid March 25 TASS -- Spain's participation in the military structure of the North Atlantic alliance does not meet its national interests, the country's Foreign Minister Fernando Moran has told the Barcelona newspaper VANGUARDIA.

The Spanish Government, bowing to democratic public pressure, had had to suspend the process of Spain's integration into the bloc's military bodies.

Fernando Moran reaffirmed the government's intention to organize a national referendum next year on the question of the country's membership in NATO. The dates of holding the referendum have been repeatedly put off.

ADELMAN SPEECH TO HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE CASTIGATED

LD232050 Moscow TASS in English 2034 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 23 TASS -- The speech which was made by Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Kenneth Adelman today at a subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations patently demonstrated that the Reagan administration has no interest in conducting serious negotiations with the USSR on limitation of the arms race.

Kenneth Adelman did not put forward new constructive proposals in the sphere of disarmament. In his speech he tried to justify the inactivity of the U.S. Administration in that sphere of some "unwillingness" of the USSR to continue the Geneva negotiations.

Kenneth Adelman failed to give a coherent reply to the question of one of the congressmen why the U.S. Government does not want to accept the USSR's proposal on concluding an agreement on prohibition of anti-sputnik weapons and why it refuses to discuss a number of other topical arms control problems.

U.S. OFFICIAL CITED ON ANTIMISSILE SYSTEMS

LD250033 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0456 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Washington, 24 Mar (TASS) -- Speaking on Capitol Hill, Colonel Gray, director of space programs of the U.S. National Security Council, stressed that plans for the creation of an antimissile defense system with space-based elements are an inherent, integral part of the policy adopted by the White House for obtaining the potential to inflict a first nuclear strike, for achieving military superiority over the USSR.

Stressing that the Pentagon intends to carry out active work to create such a system, he said its aim is to "ensure the supremacy of the United States in space." In Gray's words, the Pentagon will at the same time continue to implement programs for the creation and deployment of the latest strategic nuclear systems, such as the "MX" ballistic missiles, the strategic "B-1" bomber and the new "Trident II" nuclear submarine missile carriers.

MX DEPLOYMENT, MISSILE DEFENSE PLANS VIEWED

LD232147 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 23 Mar 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Lev Novikov]

[Text] U.S. Brigadier General Gordon Fornell, deputy chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force, has stated that the first 10 of the latest MX intercontinental first-strike ballistic missiles will be deployed near Warren Air Base, Wyoming, in December 1986. It is not superfluous to recall that in the framework of a wide-ranging program of modernization of the U.S. superiority over the Soviet Union, the U.S. Administration intends deploying a total of 100 MX missiles.

Somehow, implementation of such programs does not tie in with the statements of that same administration about its alleged peace-loving aspirations. Peace from a position of strength is an unrealistic and dangerous policy. Of course, both the MX deployment program and the realization of plans to build an antimissile defense system with space-based elements can only have a catastrophic effect on the arms control process.

Moreover, they will lead to quantitative and qualitative escalation of the arms race. Such is the opinion, for instance, of leading U.S. physicists, such as Nobel Prizewinner (Bette), the world famous professor of astronomy and space science, Sagan; and many others. (Gottfried), prominent professor of physics at Cornell University, remarked, and not by chance, that instead of entertaining unrealizable illusions about the possibility of gaining military superiority over the Soviet Union, Washington should undertake immediate steps aimed at banning the deployment of any kind of weapons in space. Well, that's sensible.

EAGLEBURGER, OTHER RESIGNATIONS 'LEAP-FROGGING'

LD232328 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2015 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Washington, 23 Mar (TASS) -- U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz today announced the resignation of his under secretary for political affairs, L. Eagleburger. This is far from being the first example of a high official of the State Department leaving his post under the present administration. In July 1982, Secretary of State A. Haig resigned. Assistant Secretaries R. Hormats and T. Enders left the U.S. State Department after him. At the beginning of this year, Stone the special representative of the U.S. President in Central America, resigned in his turn.

Three people have served in the post of national security adviser to the President. In the opinion of commentators, this leap-frogging testifies to the continuing implementation of U.S. foreign policy.

Eagleburger will be succeeded by M. Armacost, who was the U.S. ambassador to the Philippines.

U.S. COMMISSION ON STRATEGIC FORCES DISSOLVED

LD240747 Moscow TASS in English 0723 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 24 TASS -- The so-called Commission on Strategic Forces has announced its dissolution. This "consultative" body headed by retired General Brent Scowcroft, a former assistant to the President for national security affairs, was set up by the administration early last year to work out a large-scale programme of deploying inter-continental MX missiles and piloting it through Congress.

Having decided to cease their activity several months before the set date, the commission members made it clear that they view their tasks accomplished. Indeed, these diehard hawks not only devised a method of stationing 100 giant MX missiles, but also enlisted congressional approval for the allocation of funds to field the first batch of the missiles in the States of Wyoming and Nebraska.

USIA'S WICK BLAMED FOR THWARTING CULTURAL TIES

LD211013 Moscow TASS in English 0901 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA under the headline "He Preferred To Keep Silent" today carries the following dispatch of its own correspondent A. Tolkunov from New York:

"Not so long ago the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES carried an article by director of the famous Soviet dance ensemble Igor Moiseyev, recalling the guest performances of Soviet dancers in the United States, which, as he said, would promote improvement of mutual relations between our peoples.

Maybe, because there is no secret in who has thwarted this exchange and continues raising obstacles to it, the article apparently touched the USIA propaganda agency on the raw. Its Director Charles Wick was quick to explain in THE NEW YORK TIMES Washington's official stand on this question.

Seeking to put the blame at the other side's door for the frustration of these links, the USIA director said that before resuming cultural exchange, the U.S. Government intends to make it sure that it will really be bilateral.

But perhaps Charles Wick should have begun from ascertaining which of the sides under various far-fetched pretexts refused to continue honoring the general agreement on contacts, exchanges and cooperation.

Fully untenable are his complaints that the USSR allegedly refuses to receive artists from the United States, to get acquainted with American art. Of all people, the USIA director ought to be ashamed not to know that when the agreement was in effect the Soviet people familiarised themselves in a brief period of time with such ensembles as "Holiday on Ice," "Nitty-Gritty Dirt Band," the "Stradivarius" quartet, they saw painting Masterpieces of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the National Picture Gallery, the exhibitions "American Artists of the Second Half of the 19th Century," "The Gold of Columbus' America." One could also cite the number of American films, demonstrated in the Soviet Union, plays, books by American authors issued in the USSR and at the same time to compare these figures with those in the United States.

There can be only one justification for such "forgetfulness." What if that information was mislaid somewhere in heaps of short-hand records of telephone conversations with his interlocutors that were unlawfully recorded by Charles Wick or in "black lists of unreliable" politicians, public figures, representatives of artistic circles, whom USIA decided not to involve in propagandizing "the American way of life" abroad?

Does Charles Wick know that in this "open society" anti-Sovietizers from political organisations repeatedly tried to thwart appearances of Soviet artists, that they imperilled not only their lives but also the lives of the spectators?

For some reason Mr Wick prefers to keep silent on that.

ROLE OF USIA 'LIES' IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY HIT

LD231614 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0945 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (TASS) -- TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Speaking in the U.S. Congress House of Representatives, C. Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency, declared that his department "has now moved to the center of U.S. foreign policy efforts." The head of the USIA, the main center of American foreign policy propaganda, announced that in the 1985 financial year allocations to the agency will reach \$885.4 million -- almost 30 percent more than in the current financial year. In other words, in the given period the most considerable increase in allocations to all federal departments fell to the Washington anticommunist propaganda department!

These facts are further confirmation of the fact that shameless lies and attempts to deceive the international public are becoming an increasingly important integral part of the United States' foreign policy.

They are lying in Washington when they allege that the U.S. Administration "is concerned" about nothing other than "peace and arms control." The ruling circles of the United States are in reality continuing their line of forced material preparations for war, as is evidenced in particular by the record military budget for the 1985 financial year, which reaches \$313 billion.

The United States is stubbornly refusing to follow the example of the USSR and take the pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. The militarist plans and actions of the U.S. ruling circles are being accompanied by a raising of the concepts of "limited," "warning" and other nuclear wars, although it is more than obvious that whenever the nuclear storm breaks out it will inevitably cover the whole world. They are continuing to construct scenarios of a so-called "disarming" or "decapitating" nuclear strike, which are difficult to assess as anything other than an attempt to adapt to the conditions of a nuclear age Hitler's idea of the "Blitzkrieg."

They are lying in Washington when they allege that the U.S. Administration is just "thirsting for dialogue with the USSR." In reality today, like yesterday, the White House is leaving unanswered both the Soviet proposals in freezing nuclear weapons, on preventing an arms race in space, and our proposals in Stockholm on creating an atmosphere of confidence, in Vienna on mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in Central Europe, although these initiatives open up real possibilities for achieving mutually acceptable accords. Washington is blocking a solution of the problems both of strategic and of "European" nuclear weapons, refusing to remove the obstacles which it created by deploying its "Pershings" and cruise missiles in Europe.

They are lying in Washington when they allege that the United States is striving to stabilize the situation in various parts of the world, while their policy is almost a "model of international morality." In reality Washington, having announced a "crusade" against socialism and against all forces of peace and progress, is continuing to show the whole world that it sees force, "the big stick," as almost the only method of conducting international affairs. The "undeclared war" against Nicaragua and Afghanistan, the U.S. involvement in the bloody crimes of the Zionists on the soil of long-suffering Lebanon, the bandit invasion of Grenada, the unceasing threats to revolutionary Cuba -- these and many other facts prove incontrovertibly that crude interference in others' affairs, international brigandage, diktat, and terrorism have been raised by the "Reagan team" to the level of state policy. A clear example of the "morality" to which the U.S. rulers adhere is the action of brigandage and piracy against the Soviet tanker "Lugansk" -- an act that caused a storm of indignation and protests all over the world.

"The policy of the big lie" is how the foreign policy course of the Washington administration is described by Gus Hall, leader of the American Communists. With its feverish attempts to cover up with a curtain of lives the hegemonistic, aggressive acts of the United States on the international scene, with its enormous allocations for "strengthening" the gigantic mechanism created in the United States for "psychological war," Washington itself confirms the accuracy of this description.

DISCUSSION OF U.S. ELECTION CAMPAIGN, RELATIONS

LD231229 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] And now we invite you to stay tuned to a discussion of Soviet-American relations and the presidential elections in the United States. The program is hosted by Viktor Yenzikeyev.

[Yenikeyev] Hello there. I'm Viktor Yenikeyev, the host of this unrehearsed discussion. I invite you all to stay tuned to our program which will last for another 10 or 12 minutes. Our guest speaker tonight is Dr Sergey (Plekharov) who is a distinguished expert on the United States foreign and domestic policy and who is a well-known expert in the field of Soviet-American relations. And surely it's not his first appearance in the studios of the North American service of Radio Moscow. So, Dr (Plekharov), I welcome you to this program.

[(Plekharov)] Thank you, Viktor. It's a pleasure to be here.

[Yenikeyev] It's a well-known fact that the presidential elections in the United States draw much attention, both in the neighboring countries, in Western Europe, and in the Soviet Union. So I want to ask you: What importance do you attach to the presidential elections in the United States, keeping in mind Soviet-American relations in general?

[(Plekharov)] During the presidential elections in the United States there is always a discussion of the main trends in foreign and domestic policies of the U.S. Government. It doesn't mean that those discussions always lead to changes in policy because an election rhetoric is one thing and the practical day-to-day business of the U.S. Government is quite another thing and we have seen many instances when presidents who had promised great changes and great achievements in their foreign policies, (?who as) candidates would make great promises, only to forget about those promises after they had been elected [as heard]. So in many instances a presidential election has been just a ritual.

[Yenikeyev] So the public opinion polls, various public opinion polls, in the United States indicate that the questions of war and peace and the questions of Soviet-American relations are uppermost on the minds of the voters and it's somehow unusual for the American presidential elections because if we try to go back to say 1976 or 1980, well, the problems of the American economy were in focus of the public attention in the United States.

[(Plekharov)] You're quite right. Actually most of the elections, presidential elections in the postwar era were fought largely on bread and butter issues: issues of unemployment, economy, and so on. This time, at least foreign policy issues are at on a par with bread and butter issues in the minds of the voters. And clearly the administration feels that its record on Soviet-American relations is a weak spot.

[Yenikeyev] The major weakness of this administration is trying to create the impression that it has a key, a clue, to untangling those relations, to improving those relations to one extent or another. But there is a great doubt as to the administration will be able [as heard] to change some of its initial premises with regard to the Soviet Union.

[(Plekharov)] The pressure of the election campaign can be great: No doubt about it. But it is difficult to forget that the main premises of the Reagan administration in its approach to the Soviet Union are such that they have effectively precluded any progress in Soviet-American relations. Not only in arms control but in other areas as well. So in order to bring about any substantial improvement in Soviet-American relations this administration would have to change its mind on some very, very important elements of its approach. Whether the administration will be able to do that or not is a big question. To me personally it looks very doubtful.

Then the question is whether the voters in the United States will be satisfied with just changes in rhetoric, with just statements that the administration is ready to negotiate with the Soviet Union and that it's up to the Soviet Union to negotiate seriously, quote unquote, as the administration puts it, which means negotiating on the terms of the American side, not on the mutually acceptable terms.

[Yenikeyev] Well, Dr Plekharov, but I believe that the present Republican administration has to take into account the Democratic factor, because recently just a few days back, I read the Democratic platform for the forthcoming elections and the problems of war and peace counted very significantly in that platform by the Democrats. So I think, my thought is, that the Republican administration will have to counteract the Democratic initiative in the sphere of foreign policy.

[Plekharov] Or to neutralize it.

[Yenikeyev] Or to neutralize it.

[Plekharov] Well that's the name of the game. If opposition comes with slogans and proposals that are popular enough in the minds of the voters the administration is supposed to react to that and to try to neutralize the opposition. They have, both parties have to try to present themselves in the minds of the voters in such a manner that the voters will give them their votes. So the concern about Soviet-American relations and the danger of nuclear war is widespread. It's a major phenomenon and the Reagan administration bears great responsibility for that, because it scared the hell out of many voters in the United States and it's created the perception that the world is nearing a nuclear catastrophe, that the relations between the Soviet Union are on a dangerous track and that sooner or later there will be something like what was described in the popular movie, "The Day After."

[Yenikeyev] So both parties will have to respond to that concern.

GROMYKO, PRC'S QIAN QICHEN DISCUSS RELATIONS

PM261204 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, received 23 March Qian Qichen, special representative of the PRC Government at the Soviet-Chinese political consultations and PRC deputy foreign minister.

Views were exchanged on issues relating to Soviet-Chinese relations and some international issues. Positive changes in bilateral relations and contacts were placed on record. The sides also pointed out the great significance of continuation of a political dialogue between the USSR and the PRC.

Andrey Gromyko attracted Qian Qichen's attention to the speech of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of March 2, in which he gave a principled evaluation of the present-day situation in the world. It was declared that the Soviet Union is for a further improvement of relations with China and an increase in the level of contacts on a mutually acceptable basis.

Taking part in the meeting were Leonid Ilichev, USSR deputy foreign minister and Yang Shouzheng, PRC ambassador to the USSR.

ZHAO-NAKASONE VIEWS ON USSR ASIAN BUILDUP DENIED

LD251247 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Beijing March 25 TASS -- The XINHUA NEWS AGENCY reports that Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, met here Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, who is paying an official visit to China.

According to the news agency, in the course of their meeting the sides discussed Soviet-Chinese and Soviet-Japanese relations. The premier of the State Council of the P.R.C. said: We regard with understanding Japan's concern over the growing number of Soviet SS-20 missiles in Asia. This matter also worries China. Zhao Ziyang stated that the threat to Chinese security "stems from the Soviet Union."

According to him, China does not agree to the proposal that the U.S.S.R., the U.S.A. and China should conduct talks on reducing nuclear arms in Asia. Zhao Ziyang also said: "We do not think now that the Nakasone government is pursuing a policy of militarism."

The question of Soviet-Chinese and Soviet-Japanese relations was also discussed by Nakasone and Deng Xiaoping during their meeting. Deng Xiaoping said that "the Soviet military buildup in Asia is a matter of common concern for China and Japan."

It follows from the statements made by the participants in the talks in Beijing that they ignored the Soviet proposal to discuss in practical terms the question of confidence-building in the Far East. The above statements of the Chinese side disregard the fact that the Soviet Union had taken measures to strengthen its defenses in the face of the aggressive imperialist policy of the U.S.A., which is bent on tipping the existing military-strategic balance in its own favour and expanding uncontrollably its military presence in the Far East and the Pacific. It is also common knowledge that Washington is turning the Japanese isles into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" and reviving Japanese militarism as an ally with the obvious encouragement of the Nakasone government.

JAPAN REJECTS SECRETARY REGAN'S 'NEW DEMANDS'

LD260910 Moscow TASS in English 0814 GMT 26 Mar 84

["A New Outburst of Contradictions" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliiy Kharkov writes:

U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Donald Regan who completed negotiations in Tokyo on Saturday was "extremely disappointed", the American press points out. The matter is that the tough demands which were submitted by Washington's emissary were in actual fact turned down by the Japanese side. The United States is intensifying pressure upon its Japanese ally in all directions, demanding ever new concessions from it. This is particularly manifest in the trade and economic sphere. Acute rivalry between Washington and Tokyo has now involved the financial sphere. In any case the U.S. secretary of the Treasury insisted that Japan should not only open wider an access to American commodities to its home market but it should also liberalise the monetary-financial market. In other words, he insisted that the Japanese national currency -- the yen should be more widely represented in international monetary operations, above all under the aegis of U.S.-controlled financial bodies.

And this is called internationalisation of the yen. The essence of Washington's new demands to Tokyo is thus to shift on Japan also part of the financial burden which the United States bears as a result of the overtly militaristic course of the Washington administration. As was shown by the visit of the U.S. secretary of the Treasury, Washington insists that the internationalisation of the yen be carried out without any delay, not later than in April-May, making it clear that "far-reaching retaliatory steps" will be taken. In the light of the growth of protectionist sentiments in the U.S. Congress, this warning means the threat of using financial-economic sanctions against Japan.

Washington's new pressure on Tokyo in the trade-economic and financial spheres is most directly linked with the Pentagon's demands of Japan's greater contribution to joint military preparations in the region. Every time when before the beginning of the new fiscal year on April 1 the time of adoption of the budget comes in Japan, from Washington there comes an outcry in the form of the demand that Japan should still further increase its military appropriations. The most diversified means are used -- from complaints that Japan's military expenditures are not up to its economic weight to outright intimidations. This time, too, the Pentagon believes that the envisaged growth of Japan's military expenditures by 6.55 percent is not up to the "division of roles" which was established by Washington towards its Japanese ally.

OKINAWA GROUPS PROTEST GREEN BERETS' DEPLOYMENT

OW240804 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] While the Pentagon plans to deploy a battalion of Green Berets to U.S. bases on Okinawa, democratic groups on Okinawa have sent a joint letter to the U.S. Consulate General protesting it. The letter stresses that the Green Berets are special operations forces whose mission is terrorism and their assignment to Okinawa runs counter to the peaceful aspirations of the people of Okinawa Prefecture.

USSR GIVES AWARD TO JAPAN-USSR AMITY GROUP HEAD

OW230241 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Igor Vykhukhalev report]

[Text] We will now broadcast a report by Igor Vykhukhalev, Radio Moscow Tokyo correspondent, on the 28th national convention of the Japan-USSR Association, which concluded in Tokyo on 18 March.

The convention was held over 2 days at the Zenkoku Chosen Giyin Kaikan in the center of Tokyo, with 241 delegates from various prefectural chapters attending. The convention summarized the association's activities in 1983 and mapped out plans for 1984.

Last year, the Japan-USSR Association conducted activities to strengthen peace and friendship between Japan and the Soviet Union, as well as to promote exchanges in trade, economy, science, culture, sports, and other fields. The association sent a large delegation of businessmen to the Soviet Union to inspect economic development there and to study the possibility of expanding trade. It also organized Soviet artists' troupes and performers to perform in Japan and promoted the showing of Soviet films and exhibitions of photos and children's paintings.

In many remarks made at the convention, participants expressed concern about overall deterioration of the international situation and current Soviet-Japanese relations. Both convention delegates and guests stressed that the ruling circles' policies, based on attempts to turn Japan into an unsinkable aircraft carrier and to blockade international straits, have threatened peace in the region and obstructed the development of good-neighborly relations with the Soviet Union.

Furthermore, delegates to the convention protested against plans to deploy Tomahawk cruise missiles equipped with nuclear warheads to the U.S. 7th Fleet, beginning this June, and pointed out that when these plans are carried out, Japan will be turned into a bridgehead for U.S. nuclear strategy against the Soviet Union.

In his greetings to the convention, (Tyzhelov), Soviet minister to Japan, stated as follows: The Japan-USSR Association's activities conform to the interests not only of the peoples of the two countries but also to the cause of strengthening peace and friendship among all people, and these noble activities are highly appraised in the Soviet Union. To demonstrate such appraisal, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries has presented an honorary award to Takeshige Ishiguro, president of the Japan-USSR Association, for his contributions to the promotion of friendship. The Soviet people have always maintained that different social systems do not, and should not, obstruct the establishment of relations between countries based on peaceful coexistence, trust, and mutually beneficial cooperation. Their concept in this regard has not changed. Such relations should be established between the Soviet Union and Japan, which are neighboring states.

We look forward to establishing good relations with the Japanese people, and we aim at developing business relations, stable and mutually beneficial economic cooperation, and a broad range of exchanges in science, culture, and sports with Japan. This was what Minister (Tyzhelov) stated at the convention.

Present at the national convention of the Japan-USSR Association was a delegation from the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, headed by (Zaksenserivo), president of the Latvian Chapter of the Union.

The 1984 work plans adopted at the convention, stress the need to actively promote friendship between Japan and the Soviet Union, and the significance of expanding such activities among the Japanese people. This year, the Japan-USSR Association plans to organize song and dance troupes of the Armenian and Latvian SSR's to give performances in Japan; sponsor a nationwide Russian-language contest; hold activities to celebrate the 114th anniversary of Lenin's birthday on 22 April, and the 67th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution on 7 November; and promote a wide range of exchanges of delegations between the two countries.

DPRK STATE PLANNING OFFICIAL IN USSR FOR TALKS

SK240444 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] A delegation of DPRK planning functionaries led by Comrade Vice Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the DPRK Pak Nam-ki has arrived in Moscow. The Korean guests will discuss with Soviet friends matters pertaining to planning future cooperation between the two countries. The DPRK delegation met with Comrade [name indistinct], deputy chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee.

PYONGYANG PROTESTS 23 MAR SR-71 'PROVOCATION'

SK250643 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] KCNA reported that an SR-71 spy plane of the United States infiltrated the territorial airspace of the DPRK twice yesterday. The senior member of the DPRK side to the Korean Military Armistice Commission sternly protested this provocation by the United States. Since the beginning of the year, spy planes of the United States have infiltrated the Republic's territorial sky more than 20 times.

MPR SEEKS AMITY, NOT 'INTERFERENCE,' FROM PRC

PM231200 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "UNEN Article"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 22 Mar -- The MPRP Central Committee newspaper, UNEN, has published an article about China's foreign policy, which says in particular.

The Mongolian people want improved relations between the USSR and the PRC. There is no doubt that both the Soviet and the Chinese peoples want this.

However, UNEN emphasizes that the Chinese leadership is demanding that Soviet military units be withdrawn from Mongolia as a prior condition of normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. This constitutes interference in the internal affairs of People's Mongolia and an attempt to turn an issue of its sovereignty into a matter for discussion. The Governments of Mongolia and the USSR alone are empowered to resolve the question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Mongolia. It is common knowledge that this question is quite definitely not a subject for discussion at Soviet-Chinese consultations.

The Soviet troop units, the article says, are in Mongolia to ensure a peaceful life and to strengthen Mongolia's independence and do not in any way pose a threat to China. This was pointed out yet again in the Mongolian Government statement of 2 March this year.

As far as Mongolian-Chinese relations are concerned, the newspaper writes, Mongolia, adhering to a principled, consistent, and peace-loving policy, favors the restoration and development of good-neighborly relations between Mongolia and the PRC based on the principles of mutual respect, independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equal rights, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and the nonuse of force in their relations. However, the restoration of normal relations will depend not only on Mongolia but on the PRC's attitude to this, and on the nature of the policy the Chinese authorities pursue in the international arena.

LOAN FOR S. KOREA AS ANTICOMMUNIST FORWARD BASE

SK240507 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Leading bankers of Japan, the United States, and the EEC countries have decided to provide \$600 million in emergency financial aid to the near-bankrupt Chon Tu-hwan regime of South Korea. According to a report from NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN of Japan, this bank loan will be provided under maximum preferential conditions.

On the other hand, according to economic observers, the Seoul regime will not be able to repay previous loans from Western countries.

The Japanese paper also reported that South Korea's foreign debts have reached \$40 billion.

The financial loan to South Korea this time will serve to strengthen the position of the Chon Tu-hwan regime which has been recognized by Washington and Tokyo as a so-called anticommunist forward base in Asia.

INDIA REVIEWS USSR TIES, REGIONAL CONCERNS

PM251824 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Indian Foreign Ministry's Report"]

[Text] Delhi, 21 Mar -- The annual report by India's Foreign Ministry, submitted to the country's parliament for its examination, contains a high appraisal of Indian-Soviet relations. The report notes that India's friendly relations with the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries have been further developed. Trade and economic cooperation have expanded. The document emphasizes the great significance of constant contacts between the two states' leaders.

In the international arena, India actively supports the initiatives to end the arms race and at disarmament, avert the threat of nuclear war, and establish the new international economic order.

The report points out differences in Indian and U.S. positions on many regional and international problems. Alarm is caused here by deliveries of the latest U.S. weapons to Pakistan. That country's acquisition of the latest weapons from the United States gravely affects the interests of India's security. At the same time, the document confirms India's desire to normalize relations with its neighboring state.

The Foreign Ministry draws special attention to the dangerous nature of the Indian Ocean's growing militarization. The buildup of foreign military presence there not only creates a danger of armed conflict in the region, but also poses an enormous threat to the sovereignty and independence of its coastal states. Special alarm is caused by the fact that the U.S. military base on the island of Diego Garcia is being strengthened and enlarged to enable U.S. troops to be transferred to the Persian Gulf area and other parts of Asia and Africa, and that a U.S. Central Command (Centcom) has been established.

The document expresses profound concern at the explosive situation in the Near East and the presence of Israeli forces in Lebanon. India and the other nonaligned states advocate the achievement of a just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement of the Near East situation that would ensure implementation of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable rights.

India's policy toward Afghanistan reflects its firm interest in the independence, sovereignty, stability, and security of that country, the document says. India maintains its support for resolving problems connected with the situation surrounding Afghanistan by way of achieving a political settlement.

The report stresses that India is resolutely against the regime of apartheid and racism in the south of Africa, and against South Africa's aggressive intrigues against the "frontline states."

WEST DEPICTS KASHMIR, JAMMU AS 'NON-INDIAN' AREA

LD241332 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] New Delhi March 24 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Vinogradov.

A great amount of West German-published magazines depicting the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir outside the state borders has been confiscated at the capital's Palm Airport, UNI agency reports. A government spokesman said in parliament that India had already protested to Bonn against such actions. The Western press, however, sticks to its own point of view on this issue.

It is noted here that the latest incident is far from being the first example of the West's cartographic aggression. Jammu and Kashmir have been lately depicted as non-Indian territory also on maps published in the United States, Britain and some other countries.

Of particular alarm and indignation to the Indian public was the inclusion by Pentagon "geographers" of that state into the zone of future operations of the Rapid Deployment Force.

The Indian public noted that the mass media in certain countries show enhanced interest in various subversive organizations operating in Jammu and Kashmir. Several bandits have even been given a chance to appear on West European television to describe their "feats" and propagate their "ideas."

All these events are far from being fortuitous, the local press maintains. The strategically important state of Jammu and Kashmir has since long attracted "attention" in some foreign countries which back the plans of its secession from India and attachment to Pakistan tied by militarist bonds with the United States. India's Minister for External Relations P.V. Narasimha Rao, speaking in parliament, disclosed that branches of the so-called Kashmir Liberation Front, a terrorist anti-Indian grouping, are operating in the United States, Britain, Pakistan and some other countries.

DRA RELIGIOUS LEADERS BACK REVOLUTION'S GOALS

PM231520 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 84 Morning Edition pp 1, 4

[Own correspondent G. Ustinov dispatch: "Afghanistan: In United Formation"]

[Text] Kabul -- The all-Afghan jirgah -- meeting -- of DRA ulemas and religious figures concluded its work here 15 March.

The tasks and role of the clergy in strengthening and defending revolutionary gains on Afghan soil and the further development of the democratic processes taking place in the DRA were the subject of discussion at that representative meeting.

The jirgah participants adopted two documents: a "Message to the Muslims of Afghanistan and the Whole World" and an "Appeal in Defense of Peace." They express resolute and full support for the people's power and appeal to all the country's citizens to pool their efforts in the struggle against counterrevolution. The documents note the seriousness of the situation which has taken shape in recent years in the region and throughout the world as a result of the aggressive policy of international imperialism, above all of the present U.S. Administration.

The composition of the jirgah which has just ended was very representative. More than 600 of Afghanistan's most respected and authoritative religious figures met at Kabul's Intercontinental Hotel, where the meeting was held: members of the country's supreme ulamas council and of the main administration for Islamic religious affairs under DRA government, leading senior priests and imams of mosques . . .

Maulawi (Abdul Vali Khodzhat), chairman of the main Administration for Islamic Religious Affairs; Maulawi (Mokhamed Salem Elmi), member of the leadership of the National Fatherland Front; Maulawi (Nabi), custodian of the holy place of Qandahar, and the other speakers who addressed those assembled pointed out that the country's progressive clergy and the broad masses of believers warmly support the ideals and aims of the April Revolution.

Since the first days following the April Revolution in the DRA Western imperialism and Eastern reaction have been asserting that Islam in Afghanistan is in danger. This became one of the chief slogans in the undeclared war against the young republic. In this, the jirgah participants emphasized, our enemies are seeking to conceal by hook or by crook from the world public the fact that the PDPA and the country's government broadly and fully support freedom of conscience and freedom of religion.

Under the new system, for the first time in Afghanistan's history, a conference of ulemas and the clergy was held in June 1980, and it adopted a decision to form the country's supreme ulemas council. The creation of the main administration for Islamic religious affairs under the Council of Ministers attested to the DRA authorities' great and earnest attention to the concerns of believers.

The majority of the Afghan clergy understands and values highly this concern for believers and this careful and solicitous observance of freedom of conscience and religion. And yet it would be wrong to think that only a sense of gratitude makes it want to actively cooperate with the republican system and the PDPA, the speakers said. The republic sets itself the lofty goal of building in the land a society of equality, fraternity, and unity of economic and spiritual prosperity. But surely this is what every true pastor, mentor, and friend of believers strives for? All the republic's progressive priests -- and they really are in the majority -- are marching in the front ranks with other builders of the new society in the DRA.

Precisely this circumstance aroused such profound disappointment and then such an embittered reaction in the camp of the Afghan revolution's enemies. They were counting on an insuperable split in the country and the rejection by the broad masses of believers of the aims and tasks which the republic sets itself. They wanted to see the church as an active ally and, still better, as the tribune and leader of the counterrevolution. They wanted -- and they miscalculated badly. Thousands of ulemas (scientists-theologians), imams, madrasah teachers, and ordinary mullahs faithfully serve their people and the republic.

This is why the anger and vengeance of the counterrevolution rained down on the Afghan clergy with particular force and recklessness. Bandits have destroyed hundreds of mosques and religious schools, plundered their property and religious objects, burned thousands of volumes of the Koran, and killed more than 200 ulemas. This evidently, is precisely how the U.S. imperialists, who have spent \$1 billion over the past 4 years on organizing provocations against the DRA, prefer to see the "struggle for Islam" and "for holy traditions."

UZBEK EXPERTS DECORATED WITH DRA AWARDS

GF251414 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Unattributed commentary: "August Awards"]

[Text] Dear listeners, DRA orders and medals were recently awarded to a group of Uzbek experts who travelled to Afghanistan from the Soviet Union to help construct

irrigation installations in Jalalabad.

The Nangarhar Valley was an arid region 20 years ago. Currently, however, cultivated lands and vineyards have been established in it. With the help of Soviet experts a powerplant has been built on Darya-ye Kabul and a 70-km long canal has been put into operation. A total of 24,000 hectares of land was reclaimed and is currently being irrigated. There is an abundant yield from [word indistinct] crops in regions which have dry seasons.

Meanwhile, it will be recalled that the effort made to realize the agreement between the Soviet Union and the DRA for the training of experts from among the local people was upgraded in 1981. At present, DRA experts are training in extraordinary irrigation installations in Uzbekistan.

Giving guidance on the use of machinery, tractors, and excavators is an honorable profession in Afghanistan. Recently, Soviet experts have also been helping Afghan youths in that field. [Word indistinct] are being set up and Soviet experts are participating in them to demonstrate their skills and knowledge to Afghanistan citizens. Obviously, if the fact that many of the installations built through (?cooperation) have been wrecked by Afghanistan's enemies is taken into consideration, the identity of the friends and foes of the Afghan people would become apparent.

Cultivated lands and vineyards established in Afghanistan's desert and arid regions through cooperation between the Afghan and Soviet peoples have begun to yield their produce. Ever since land reclamation began in Afghanistan, the number of skilled experts and the amount of experience increased successfully in that field. The Soviet experts are participating in the effort to resolve problems in that domain. Soviet experts are not only advising Afghan citizens in various fields but also working together with them to help sow their crops and upgrade their lands' productivity. Soviet agronomists are also drawing up data for our Afghan friends on the technical work required after the cultivation of their fields is completed.

The Uzbek experts in Afghanistan have numerous friends in that country -- (name indistinct), 'Aref Ebrahim, Soleyman, who is an electrical galvanizer, and Bismillah, who is [words indistinct] and others. Through the help given by Soviet experts they have acquired practical knowledge in the agricultural domain.

Mukhamed Tagir Nazarov, [name indistinct], (?Zare Kurdpolatov), Abdulvahid Yusupov, Mumingid Sultanov, and (?Bazer Kadymov) are among the Uzbek experts who are sparing no effort to help develop and consolidate the Afghan economy. We congratulate our fellow countrymen who have not spared their international help to the friendly Afghan people and who have been presented with the August Awards of the Afghan Government.

CPSU'S RYZHKOV CONFERS WITH SRV'S VO VAN KIET

PM231713 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Spirit of Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] N.I. Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met 20 March with Vo Van Kiet, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Politburo, vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, and chairman of the SRV State Planning Commission. During the talk, they touched on questions of CPSU and CPV economic policies, including the sphere of national economic planning in both countries, as well as some questions of Soviet-Vietnamese economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. The talk was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete mutual understanding.

SRV MINISTER THACH'S VISITS TO ASEAN HAILED

OW252006 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1000 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has ended his tour of nations in Southeast Asia and the Pacific region. Comrade Nguyen Co Thach visited Indonesia, Australia, and Thailand, where he talked with government officials.

Our station commentator writes: Washington and its followers have stubbornly stuck to their allegation that Vietnam seemingly is the only obstacle to the consolidation of peace in Southeast Asia. Vietnam's foreign policy activities have fully belied that allegation.

More than any other country, Vietnam knows well the price of peace, because its war wounds have not yet healed. Therefore, Vietnam has made its primary foreign policy objective the task of strengthening peace, of broadening contacts and relations with other countries on the basis of equality, mutual benefits, and mutual respect for one another's sovereignty. Minister Nguyen Co Thach's recent trip has further helped in that direction.

Of course, Vietnam's main concern is about Southeast Asian affairs. What should be done to make this a region of peace and security? How can a confrontation that may result from developments of the region's situation be avoided? Along with Laos and Kampuchea, Vietnam has advanced a whole program for resolving the region's situation in cooperation with the ASEAN states; that is the program of fruitfully developing good-neighborly cooperation. How can that objective be achieved? Through negotiation only, the Indo-chinese countries maintain bilateral or multilateral negotiations. The Indo-chinese countries' program consists of package and partial solutions. Pending agreement, a treaty can be signed on the principles in relations between the two groups of countries.

Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea have advocated the holding of a regional or international conference on Southeast Asian affairs. To show their good will, they are ready to examine any other proposal on negotiations that contributes to improving the situation in Southeast Asia.

Happily, there has been a rising tendency in the ASEAN states to promote dialogue and cooperation. It was no accident that Indonesian Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief, General Murdani, stated, on returning from a visit to Vietnam, that Vietnam is not a threat to Southeast Asian nations. Many politicians in the Philippines and Malaysia have also supported the Jakarta policy of advocating dialogue, not confrontation.

Singapore, which has trade relations with Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, and Thai business circles have also demanded that obstacles to their trade relations with the neighboring Indochinese countries be removed.

Despite Washington's continuing pressure, a view is being consolidated in the ASEAN states that differences in social systems cannot prevent arrangements for mutual benefits and consolidation of detente. Only on the basis of dialogue without foreign powers' interference can Southeast Asian nations resolve the problems that they should, and build bridges of mutual trust and cooperation.

NHAN DAN SAVS SRV'S PRK ROLE 'INTERNAL AFFAIR'

LD241734 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] The organ of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, the paper NHAN DAN, has published an article which says: Though recently harping on its good will and striving towards a dialogue, China continues to make the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea a condition. Vietnam's position on this question, the paper writes, is well known: In conformity with existing agreements, Vietnamese volunteers are carrying out their internationalist duty, helping the Kampuchean people and Armed Forces in constructing and defending the motherland from the threat of foreign reactionary forces at the request of the Kampuchean Government. Vietnamese volunteers, NHAN DAN stresses, will leave Kampuchea as soon as the outside threat to this country is eliminated.

On the one hand Beijing asserts that the Kampuchean problem is one of relations between the countries of ASEAN and Indochina. On the other hand, Beijing uses this as a condition for the normalization of relations between China and the Soviet Union. The presence of Vietnamese volunteers in Kampuchea is a purely internal affair between the two countries, the paper points out. It is not a subject for discussion at Soviet-Chinese meetings, nor is it an obstacle to the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. The Vietnamese people fully support the talks the Soviet Union is holding with the aim of improving interstate relations with China and approves the USSR's principled position as stated in the speech by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko at his meeting with the electorate, writes NHAN DAN in conclusion.

PRK, CAPE VERDE ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD251051 Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Bissau March 25 TASS -- The Republic of Cape Verde and the People's Republic of Kampuchea decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, says the joint communique released in Praia, capital of the Republic of Cape Verde, on the results of an official visit of friendship by a Kampuchean delegation led by Hun Sen, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The document notes the two countries' deep concern over the aggravation of the international situation. It is only the strict observance of the principles of the U.N. Charter and basic norms of international law, the communique says, that will make it possible to safeguard peace and international security.

The Republic of Cape Verde expressed support for the efforts of the government and people of Kampuchea to resolve their national problems and for the peace initiatives formulated by the 8th conference of the foreign ministers of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. Both sides stressed the need to achieve a comprehensive solution of the problems of Southeast Asia.

The two countries denounced the racist regime of South Africa and voiced support for the struggle of the peoples of that country against apartheid and racial discrimination.

AUSTRALIAN ENVOY ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 21 MAR

PM242117 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Edward Robert Pocock, Australian ambassador to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 21 March.

STROUGAL SPEECH ON MISSILES, PACT PEACE POLICY

LD211615 Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] Prague March 21 TASS -- We are prepared to discuss all the proposals which, respecting the principle of equality and equal security, would help to lessen international tension and take practical measures to limit and reduce nuclear weapons, Lubomir Strougal, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and chairman of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, said in his speech at the session of the Federal Assembly which opened here today. Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and president of the republic, and other Czechoslovak leaders take part in the proceedings of the session.

The international situation has perceptibly worsened during the past year as a consequence of the aggressive actions of the reactionary forces of imperialism and remains tense, Lubomir Strougal noted. A particularly dangerous situation has emerged in Europe, where new U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles began to be deployed. Proper measures to defend our socialist homeland and the other members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization have become inevitable in this situation. Operational-tactical missile systems are being deployed in Czechoslovak territory by agreement between the Governments of Czechoslovakia and the USSR.

Despite this fact, Lubomir Strougal stressed, the socialist countries' peace initiatives are standing in their entirety. They propose a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between the Warsaw Treaty member countries and the NATO countries and agreements on arms limitation, on the prohibition of chemical and space weapons and on freezing and gradually reducing military spending.

We nurture no illusion that the aggressive plans of imperialism will change in the near future. That is why we believe that it will be the command of the time in Europe too to strengthen the unity of action and cohesion of the countries of the socialist community. We are not pessimists. Moreover, we believe that our optimism is realistic. It proceeds from the consistency and dependability of the peace policy of socialist countries and the resolve of the peoples to prevent the outbreak of war. We believe that a turn for the better can be achieved in international relations, Lubomir Strougal said.

USSR, ROMANIAN TRADE MINISTERS SIGN AGREEMENT

PM251850 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Ties"]

[Text] A talk was held 19 March between N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, I.S. Silayev, USSR minister of aviation industry, and V. Pungan, Romanian minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, and I. Avram, Romanian minister of the machine building industry.

Questions of the further development of trade and economic ties between the two countries were discussed.

An agreement between the USSR and Romania on cooperation in the sphere of the production and reciprocal deliveries of specialized machine building products was signed on the same day at the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

The talks and the signing ceremony were attended by Romanian Ambassador to the USSR T. Dudas.

REPORTAGE ON MITTERRAND'S TALKS WITH REAGAN

'Contradictions' in French Policy

PM251815 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Krivopalov "International Commentary": "Contradictions and Contradictoriness"]

[Text] Having only just completed the difficult negotiations in Brussels where a routine session of the EEC Council has been held, F. Mitterrand has set off on yet another trans-Atlantic trip. The French president is to be received by the incumbent of the White House 22 March.

As has been the case on similar occasions in the past, both sides made optimistic noises about U.S.-French relations allegedly developing normally. Via AFP, Reagan assured Mitterrand's compatriots: These relations "are better than ever," Prior to his visit to the United States, F. Mitterrand, too, spoke in optimistic tones about Franco-American relations in an interview for THE WASHINGTON POST. According to the president's words, "relations remain good. Mr Reagan often writes to me, and I, too, write to him quite often..."

The fact that the visit to the United States coincided with the session where the French head of state in fact set about discharging the duties of president of the EC Council is accidental, I believe. However, it is no secret that President Mitterrand finds the role of spokesman for West European interests most attractive.

France's desire for leadership and the wish by its policy to exert a more active influence upon other countries with which it cooperates within the EEC, and in general to play a more noticeable role in the world, cannot be described as reprehensible. That is the order of things. Moreover, the political weight which Paris carried in international relations during the period of detente was very considerable.

Questions arise elsewhere. It is well known that the French president has taken the U.S. side entirely as regards the siting of the new U.S. "Euromissiles" in West Europe. Even before the present visit, F. Mitterrand, giving the impression of wanting to please his partner, praised the neutron bomb claiming that it was quite moral. He reiterated his statements about the "strategic equilibrium" which has been known for a long time and which follow U.S. reasoning. New points have also emerged. It only remains to be guessed whether or not the military exercises which have only just begun in France are a political demonstration. For the first time, questions of the interaction between aviation and land-based air defense missile subunits for repelling... massive air attacks from the "eastern direction" are to be rehearsed during the maneuvers. How can one omit to mention here that in recent years France's "increasing involvement" in the military organization of NATO and in NATO's strategic and also operational plans and maneuvers has become especially noticeable?

It is obvious to everyone that France was and is being subjected to strong pressure from the United States using every available means, including economic levers. In an attempt to dictate their will, U.S. officials interfere most blatantly in that country's internal affairs. The overt blackmail and threats to which Paris was subjected for its clearly and firmly expressed wish to continue to develop mutually advantageous economic cooperation and conduct a political dialogue with the USSR is not forgotten.

It is appropriate here to speak of contradictions between the French and the U.S. leadership, and this applies also to assessments of, say, the situation in Central America.

However, France's stance is less independent as regards other directions. And what one has to note here are not contradictions with the United States, but the contradictoriness of French foreign policy, which has fallen victim to "coordination" with the "world gendarme." Its prestige in the international arena has been noticeably impaired by its Chad expedition, which received Washington's approval. And did Paris not lend a helping hand to the United States at a critical time in Lebanon, and again suffer considerable moral and political losses?

The talks which open in the U.S. capital 22 March will show whether Paris has learned any lessons from the present state of Franco-American relations, which are by no means "good", or whether these relations will continue to develop in the former direction, thus dooming France to new failures and difficulties.

French policy must be determined in Paris, irrespective of whether Washington likes it or not. France could largely contribute to the normalization of the situation in Europe and in the whole world, which has deteriorated so much as a result of the Reagan administration's actions. This would be in the interests of all peoples, and not least in the interests of the French people.

First Round of Talks

LD231255 Moscow TASS in English 1227 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 23 TASS -- The first round of talks has been held in the White House between President Ronald Reagan of the United States and President Francois Mitterrand of France who is here on an official visit. According to a White House spokesman, the talks were practically fully devoted to the problems of East-West relations.

Judging by the speeches of the leaders of the two countries and by statements of U.S. officials, Washington is putting an increased pressure on Paris, seeking to draw France still deeper into the orbit of its adventuristic policy in the international arena.

Speaking at the welcoming ceremony, President Reagan expressed gratitude to President Mitterrand for his personal contribution to strengthening the might and unity of the North Atlantic alliance.

It is noted here that meant by this is first of all the active support which the French Government has given to the United States in the realization of the dangerous NATO plans for the deployment of new U.S. nuclear-missile armaments in Europe.

The head of the White House thanked France for its military role outside the European Continent, for participation in the conflicts in Lebanon and Chad, in particular. In so doing he tried to present the Western powers' direct military interference in the affairs of other states as their certain "right" which ostensibly arises from the commitments which go beyond the countries' borders.

Francois Mitterrand, for his part, confirmed France's "loyalty" to the North Atlantic alliance. Later on, speaking at a joint meeting of the two houses of U.S. Congress, he tried to "substantiate" his position in the question of deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe by pleading the need to restore the allegedly upset balance of forces in the continent.

He also made it clear that he supports the Reagan administration's course towards the pursuance of a policy from the position of firmness and determination with regard to the Soviet Union, or in other words, from the position of strength. Therefore Mitterrand's calls for the establishment of a "productive dialogue" with the USSR are of purely rhetorical character.

Mitterrand's pronouncements have shown at the same time that there are substantial differences between the USA and France over a whole number of international problems, in the approach to the situation in Central America, in particular. The president of France declared in favour of giving an opportunity to the peoples of Central America to decide their future themselves without interference and manipulations from the outside.

Mitterrand Press Conference

LD242311 Moscow TASS in English 2029 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 24 TASS -- Addressing a press conference in Washington upon completion of his talks with Ronald Reagan, French President Francois Mitterrand devoted special attention to East-West relations. As the president said, he wishes to maintain "active relations" with the Soviet Union. The head of the French state declared his intention to preserve chances for such relations with the state, the government and also, which is very important to us, with the great people, which was our ally at the time of grim trials.

In relations between the major European nations, and not only European ones, he continued, it is important to know what one expects from the other, he continued. The Soviet Union has a good reason to expect from France loyalty and the wish to create a climate useful for peace and disarmament.

At the same time President Mitterrand reiterated his old stand, according to which the Soviet Union is not expected to object against the deployment in Europe of new American first-strike missiles and give up the demand that the nuclear missile weapons of Britain and France be taken into account. We favour disarmament, but it does not depend on us whether it is possible," [quotation mark as received] he claimed, insisting, as a matter of fact, that the USSR agree to an upsetting of the military equilibrium in the west's favour.

If France can be useful and take part in a clearer definition of conditions for a return to normal East-West relations, she will not fail to do so, the president continued and added that he did not wish to appear as a mediator between East and West, especially between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Answering a question, Francois Mitterrand said: I believe that I shall not give an evaluation of whether President Reagan makes enough efforts for restoring a better climate in relations with the Soviet Union. In answer to another question from a newsman, who was interested to know how Mitterrand explains the warmth of his meeting with the United States President, the French president said: Politics often adversely affect relations between people. But I do not think so. I respect people, if I like their behavior in life.

Touching upon the situation in Central America, the French president said that he did not share the assessments given by American diplomacy. It seems to me, he said, that the sources of the conflicts there are explained by the situation which was not rectified in time -- the situation, in which military dictatorships actually express the views of the oligarchies controlling all economic levers in those countries and maintaining a situation characterized by acute economic and social injustice.

This time again Francois Mitterrand evaded criticizing the crude economic, political and military interference of the United States in the internal affairs of Latin American countries.

Conclusion of Discussions

LD241917 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1230 GMT 24 Mar 84

[From the "International Review" program, presented by Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] Two days of talks at the White House between President Francois Mitterrand of France and President Reagan have now ended. According to a spokesman for the U.S. Administration, the talks were chiefly devoted to East-West relations. Mitterrand, who is now beginning a tour of the United States, and Washington's leaders also discussed the situation in the Near East and Central America, as well as commercial and economic relations between the United States and West Europe, which are quite exacerbated. It is evident from the statement by the American side that the Reagan administration made an attempt to more deeply involve France in its militarist preparations in both the European Continent and other parts of the world.

KOHL WRONG ABOUT USSR RESUMING ARMS TALKS

LD231624 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 23 Mar 84

["You Are Wrong, Mr Kohl" -- TASS headline]

[Text] March 23 TASS [dateline as received] -- Late last year, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl repeatedly made unfounded forecasts that after the first American medium-range missiles were deployed in Western Europe, the Soviet Union would depart from its principled stand at the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe and "display a serious approach" by either accepting the "zero option" or the so-called "interim proposal" of the United States. Both these American proposals are known to provide for the U.S.S.R.'s unilateral disarmament without adequate limitations or reductions of nuclear weapons by the U.S.A. and the other NATO member countries.

After the hopes of the U.S. Administration for the Soviet Union's departure from the principles of equality and equal security proved to be futile, after Washington frustrated the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe as a result of the deployment of new American first strike missiles in the FRG, Britain and Italy, the federal chancellor began exhorting the Soviet Union to agree to a resumption of a dialogue with the United States on American terms, with the new Pershings and cruise missiles remaining in the territory of Western Europe.

Speaking yesterday in an interview with a West German newspaper, OFFENBUERGER TAGEBLATT, he even expressed confidence that the Soviet Union would return to the Geneva talks, as, as he put it, "Moscow has a stake" in talks on effective disarmament and arms control.

The Soviet Union really has a stake in effective nuclear disarmament and the U.S.S.R.'s realistic proposals on that score remain in effect. But Mr Kohl is wrong when believing that the Soviet Union would come to the talks that would serve as a smokescreen for the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe and destabilisation of the military-political situation in the continent.

The Soviet Union will not take part in such a game, and will not have such talks and discussions. The Soviet stand on that issue is most explicit and clear-cut.

To resume talks on European and strategic nuclear weapons with the U.S.S.R.'s participation it is necessary to remove the obstacles put up by Washington in the way of normalising the situation in Europe and to return to the situation, which existed prior to the commencement of deployment of new American missiles in the continent. The way to the talks can be opened only through withdrawal of American missiles from the FRG and other NATO countries.

PENTAGON SEEKS EXPANDED FACILITIES IN PORTUGAL

PM231436 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Nesterov "Pertinent Notes": "Under Pentagon Pressure"]

[Text] At the very moment that the U.S. submarine Nathan Hale with nuclear ammunition on board moored in the port of Lisbon and a detachment of NATO ships were cruising off the Portuguese capital, Mota Pinto, the deputy prime minister and defense minister, confirmed that yet another U.S. military installation will be set up in the southern province of the Algarve.

This time it is a question of a satellite-tracking station. As the local press has stressed, it will be installed in accordance with the overall U.S. "defense program."

Thus, the U.S. line of defense will now cross...southern Portugal. Until recently, tourists from all over the world came here to the golden beaches of the Atlantic. Now a new "attraction" of the Portuguese south will be added to the exotic Corrida and the famous Fado -- the name the locals give to their protracted, melancholy songs. The tracking station will add to the already fairly extensive list of U.S. and NATO military installations in this small country of the Iberian Peninsula.

A few weeks ago, the United States succeeding in imposing on Portugal a shackling agreement of extending the lease for the Lajes Air Base on the Azores. The Pentagon has openly requested a considerable expansion of its military presence in the country. Reports have appeared about its intentions to build a second runway at the Lajes base, construct a number of oil tanks on the Azores and modify a harbor on the Azores for visiting nuclear submarines, create a military base on the island of Madeira, and implement a whole string of other projects.

In the words of D. Oberdorfer, the well known U.S. political commentator, White House officials have assessed the Lajes base deal as very important. This assessment is entirely explicable, especially now that the West European countries are increasingly unenthusiastic about stringing along with U.S. adventures. At the same time, the Pentagon's appetite is growing. In a few days time, during the next round of Lisbon talks, the United States intends winning Portugal's assent to the construction of several more U.S. military installations. The Pentagon is laying claim to the Beja base in Alentejo Province, hoping to use it for stopovers by USAF refueling aircraft and, in the future, to turn it into an important logistic support center for the 6th Fleet.

"The United States also intends using the Beja base to refuel planes carrying cruise missiles," (D. Dilinger), one of the leaders of the Portuguese peace and cooperation council, stated.

Reports have also filtered to the press that it is planned to set up an air base on the Portuguese island of Porto Santo for U.S. spy planes and squadrons of long-range bombers.

Reports of the possible siting of nuclear weapons on Portuguese territory have also started appearing with increasing frequency. In his recent statement, the deputy prime minister openly declared that his government does not intend giving any promises about prohibiting the use of the country's territory for the transportation and stockpiling of nuclear weapons, since this would run counter to the principles of "Atlantic solidarity."

Thus, by exploiting Portugal's economic dependence on the West, the Pentagon and NATO are able to impose more and more new shackling agreements on it.

CRUISE MISSILES TO BE DEPLOYED IN ITALY 26 MARCH

LD232034 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 23 Mar 84

[From the Vremya newscast; Yuriy Vybornov report]

[Text] The planned deployment of American nuclear missiles on Italian soil is arousing profound alarm throughout the country. It seems the fateful date has already been decided as Monday, 26 March. On that day, Colonel (Thomas Boeing) will formally announce that the Comiso base has been put into a state of operational readiness. This will mean that the first 16 cruise missiles -- each of which exceeds by 20-fold the yield of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima -- will be able to be put into action at any moment. That is a quotation from the latest edition of the Italian PANORAMA magazine. It is hard to say how fully its journalists are informed about the ritual governing the aforementioned action, but I rather think that one thing no longer evokes any doubts -- Italy is ready to step across the nuclear threshold and be transformed into a state that has lethal weapons on its soil and, what is more, does not have any control over them.

The supporters of Atlanticism in the Apennines repeatedly allege that the cruise missiles are necessary for defense and to counter NATO's alleged lagging behind the Soviet Union in medium-range nuclear weapons. This claim is totally false. Of interest in this respect is a statement made by American engineer Thomas Siemer, who for 23 years worked on the creation of several generations of cruise missiles. The text of his open letter to Pope John Paul II and to President Pertini of Italy has been published in PAESE SERA. I can claim with every confidence, the letter says, that the cruise missiles are a first-strike offensive weapon. Claims that the cruise missiles are being installed in order to ensure the country's security are an insult to logic. Even without this, NATO has sufficient means of defense.

The Italian Government, of course, is just as aware as the American engineer of what kind of weapon it is installing on its soil. It is aware of this, but is doing nothing to cancel or albeit postpone the date for the final deployment of American first-strike missiles.

Missiles Operational

LD241128 Moscow TASS in English 1042 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Rome March 24 TASS -- The first 16 American cruise missiles, deployed at the U.S. Airforce Base in Comiso, Sicily, have been made operational, FRANCE-PRESSE AGENCY, reports today.

The news agency stresses, referring to reliable sources, that Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini will officially inform the Senate of the deployment on Monday. 112 first-strike cruise missiles are to be installed at the American airbase at Comiso.

U.S. 'ELECTRONIC ESPIONAGE CENTER' IN FAROES

PM231114 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent M. Kostikov dispatch: "Beneath a Veil of Secrecy"]

[Text] Copenhagen, 22 Mar -- The fact of the presence of a secret U.S. electronic espionage center in the Faroe Islands, which form part of the Kingdom of Denmark, recently became public knowledge.

Beneath a veil of strict secrecy this nest of spies located in the (Sornfelli) region has for 25 years been gathering intelligence data of a military-strategic nature on the Warsaw Pact countries. As the newspaper LAND OG FOLK points out, its task includes the monitoring and interception of reports being transmitted over satellite communication channels, the provision of backup for the actions of the U.S. Navy and Air Force, and the broadening of their potential for inflicting a nuclear first strike.

In this connection the Danish press points out that this American intelligence center in the Faroes is directly under the jurisdiction of the Pentagon and, in particular, of the U.S. Air Force Command and has nothing to do with the NATO military installations situated on the islands. Furthermore, its creation was not recorded in any government agreement, and its activity is not controlled in any way by Denmark.

WEINBERGER LECTURES SWEDISH NEWSMEN ON USSR SUBS

LD222024 Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 22 TASS -- TASS commentator Vadim Biryukov writes:

The United States Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger invited to his establishment a group of journalists from Sweden and gave them a lecture on...Soviet submarines which supposedly are operating in the sea depths in the area of Karlskrona. The Pentagon chief spoke in a manner as if he personally saw these submarines. Of course, he did not cite any concrete facts. He simply could not since they do not exist. This however did not prevent Weinberger from demanding from the Swedish Government not to waver and to build up its military potential.

Trying to pass off the desirable for the real, he clearly tried to prompt Stockholm to pursue a militaristic policy spearheaded against the Soviet Union. Evidently, some people in Washington are clearly displeased with Sweden's long-standing neutrality, with the political course which is viewed with pride in that Scandinavian country.

There is yet another explanation to the zeal with which the United States secretary of defence raises once again the topic of the mythical Soviet submarines in the area of Karlskrona. The United States wants very much to divert attention from its own cavalier behaviour. It is an open secret that American submarines feel quite at home in the territorial waters of many sovereign states.

Here is fresh confirmation of this: An American television company reported on Wednesday with reference to a Pentagon source that United States submarines regularly infiltrate the territorial waters of other countries in order to gather intelligence information. Such clandestine operations, the report says, are being conducted against countries considered to be friendly to the United States.

This certainly gives food for thought.

SPAIN'S KING TO MEET USSR 'HEAD OF STATE' IN MAY

LD251626 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] The king and queen of Spain will pay an official visit to the USSR on 12 May at the invitation of that country's government. This visit, which has been planned for some years, will be the first made by a Spanish head of state to the USSR. The Spanish Foreign Ministry has been informed by the Soviet authorities that by the time of the king and queen of Spain's visit the Soviet head of state will have been appointed.

CONCLUSION OF LAUSANNE CONFERENCE NOTED

LD231923 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1230 GMT 24 Mar 84

[From the "International Review" program, presented by Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] It was announced in Paris today that the French troops in Beirut -- the last Mohicans of the NATO force -- are to be withdrawn from there by 31 March.

The Conference on National Reconciliation in Lebanon ended in Lausanne this week. Unfortunately, it ended without broad reconciliation. The leaders of eight different Lebanese political and religious groups failed to work out a balanced structure for the Lebanese state and Army. Even the cease-fire agreement worked out in Lausanne has proved to be short-lived. It is no longer being observed. Yesterday there were fierce clashes, shooting. People were killed yesterday. Today the fighting has not been so fierce, but the shooting incidents are still going on.

Timoshkin on Positive Side

LD231755 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Today I wish to express some of my views on the development of events following the end of the second stage of the national dialogue conference. Let me say first, however, that I disagree with my Arab colleagues who look with extreme pessimism about the results of the hard talks that took place at Lausanne. I am more inclined to agree with those who consider the resumption of national dialogue among the Lebanese forces as itself a positive matter, particularly because the Lausanne conference approved a number of important documents.

Practical implementation of the agreement reached by the Lebanese warring forces is naturally a very complex matter. Unfortunately, it cannot be completed with the desired speed. This is because over the years since the start of the civil war, and particularly after the Israeli and U.S. aggression, many new problems have piled up. The solution of these problems requires a great deal of time, patience, and reason.

The second stage of the Lebanese reconciliation which took place in Lausanne is of great importance also in that it provided an opportunity to find out the true nature of each of the parties in Lebanon. By this I mean the opportunity to evaluate the positions of the various parties to the conflict, particularly the undeclared positions. I believe that there is only one criterion that can be used in this regard: How compatible is the position of each of the Lebanese warring sides with the short-term and long-term national interests of the country and the people, and what contribution is each side and each political force making toward efforts to normalize conditions in the country and to defend freedom, political independence and territorial integrity of the country?

The most important objectives of the Lebanese struggle is to secure the eviction of the Israeli invaders from Lebanese territory. This is what the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people and their true national forces, whose vanguards are fighting the invaders, are struggling for. At the same time, there are Lebanon forces which not only work for their narrow self-interests but also cooperate with the Israeli enemy. They are the ruffians of Sa'd Haddad, with whose help Israel has been consolidating its positions in southern Lebanon.

We must also talk about the position of the Phalangists, who under occupation, have been trying to establish formal relations with the enemy. This is evident from the fact that the Phalangists plan to open a diplomatic representation -- but where do you think, gentlemen? In occupied Jerusalem! The Phalangists also call for the partitioning of Lebanon. They proposed a plan for transforming the country into a federation.

Such acts by the reactionary forces in Lebanon, which hope to run the country's affairs by themselves obstruct the efforts exerted for national reconciliation and the normalization of conditions.

However, these Lebanese forces are a minority. One does not need to be a prophet to predict, despite everything, that the minority will never succeed in imposing its will over the majority of the Lebanese people and its national forces.

Right is on the side of the sound national forces in Lebanon who also enjoy active support from the progressive Arab countries, particularly Syria and the friends and allies of the anti-imperialist liberation forces in the Arab world, as well as the support of the USSR and the other socialist countries. I am confident, gentlemen, that the common struggle of precisely these forces will sooner or later ensure the success of the cause of freedom in Lebanon. The just cause of the brave and freedom-loving Lebanese people will ultimately triumph. The vital interests of the Lebanese people are closely linked with safeguarding Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity and creation of the necessary conditions for national social and economic revival.

I can say with full courage that there are many in the Arab world who have similar views -- even those in Arab countries which are described in the United States and the West as moderates.

HERNU ANNOUNCEMENT OF BEIRUT PULLOUT REPORTED

LD241129 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Paris March 24 TASS -- France's National Defence Minister Charles Hernu has officially announced here that France will pull out its armed forces from Beirut before March 31 this year.

At present, there are about 1,300 French troops in Beirut, sent there within the framework of the multinational force formed under pressure from the United States.

Withdrawal Begins

LD251259 Moscow TASS in English 1216 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Paris March 25 TASS -- The French troop contingent has begun to be withdrawn from Beirut. According to AFP, the first several dozen Army vehicles have today been loaded onto the ferry boat "L'Esterel" which is to take them along with 500 French officers and men to Marseilles.

The decision to withdraw French troops from the Lebanese capital was announced yesterday by the French Defence Minister Charles Hernu. The decision was taken after the U.S., British and Italian troops contingents, which had participated in the Multinational Force put together under U.S. pressure, had left Beirut a few weeks previously. The withdrawal of the French units, numbering 1,250 officers and men, is to be completed by March 31.

IRAQI , IRANIAN BATTLE COMMUNIQUE CITED

22 March Report

LD221126 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad March 22 TASS -- The Iraqi front-line units attacked yesterday the Iranian troops which tried to approach the Iraqi positions east of Basrah. This is reported in a communique of the supreme military command of Iraq. Over 100 Iranian officers and men were killed, and a large amount of the enemy's munitions were destroyed. Iraqi planes and helicopters delivered blows at the areas of concentration of Iranian troops east of the Tigris River. They made a total of 178 sorties.

The Iranian artillery shelled the cities of Basrah, Mandali and zurbatiya, the communique points out.

Nicosia March 22 TASS -- According to the IRNA news agency (Iran), combat operations continued at various sections of the front. The Iranian troops repulsed all the counterattacks of the enemy, which tried to force its way into the Iranian defense positions, and inflicted to it the losses in manpower and munitions.

The city of Abadan, Iranm was brought under heavy artillery fire. There are casualties among the population. A number of apartment houses and civilian objects were destroyed.

25 March Report

LD251620 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad March 25 TASS -- Iraqi forces put out of action four oil tankers south of Khark Island yesterday morning following an attack from the air and sea, according to an Iraqi military spokesman. His statement stresses that Iraq will continue the blockade of Iranian ports in the Persian Gulf, hitting any targets that appear close to them.

East of the city of Basrah, says a communique by Iraq's high military command, Iraqi planes attacked Iranian troops, inflicting on them heavy losses in men and hardware. The Iranian artillery shelled the cities of Basrah and Mandali.

Nicosia March 25 TASS -- A spokesman for the General Staff of the Iranian Army has denied the report that Iraqi aircraft and Navy destroyed four tankers to the south of Khark Island, IRNA agency reports.

Three planes and one helicopter were shot down by Iranian fighter-aircraft and air-defences in the southern sector of the front, IRNA points out. In the northern sector, the Iranian artillery shelled Iraqi troop positions. The city of Abadan was subjected to bombardment by the Iraqi long-range artillery.

CANCELLATION OF U.S. MISSILES FOR JORDAN NOTED

LD242321 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] The U.S. Department of Defense has officially canceled a proposal earlier sent to Congress to sell Jordan a consignment of Stinger antiaircraft missiles. That is the way the Reagan administration has thought up to teach King Husayn of Jordan a lesson.

He recently sharply criticized U.S. policy in the Near East and Washington's complicity with Tel Aviv's expansionist ambitions. In particular, in a NEW YORK TIMES interview, the head of the Jordanian state said that the continuing occupation of Arab territories by Israel became possible thanks to U.S. military, economic, and political help.

KNESSET VOTES IN FAVOR OF EARLY ELECTIONS

LD230947 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus March 23 TASS -- An internal political crisis has flared up in Israel. The Knesset voted 61 against 58 in favour of holding pre-term parliamentary elections. According to news agencies, this dealt a heavy blow at the ruling "Likud" coalition headed by Prime Minister Shamir.

Observers believe that the present crisis is the direct result of the adventuristic, aggressive foreign policy of Tel Aviv which also brought about acute economic problems for the country.

SUDANESE PRESIDENT RECEIVES U.S. ENVOY RUMSFELD

LD241909 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] President Numayri of Sudan has met in Khartoum with the American presidential envoy, Donald Rumsfeld. The envoy reportedly promised the president continued American aid. Shortly before that, the United States has said it was stepping up its arms supplies to Sudan. Sudan's neighbors have been showing concern over this move.

U.S. ACCUSED OF FANNING ANTI-LIBYAN HYSTERIA

LD41714 Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- TASS commentator Vyacheslav Korzelev writes:

The United States continues to fan up the anti-Libyan hysteria by using as a pretext for conducting it the incident with the unidentified plane which made a raid on one of the suburbs of the Sudanese capital several days ago.

Speaking at a press conference, Alan Romberg, a spokesman of the U.S. Department of State, has asserted that Washington has available information from "independent sources" confirming that the plane which bombed facilities in Sudanese territory belonged to Libya. The U.S. Administration, acting according to the principle that any means will do and resorting once again to deliberate lies and deception, is trying to prove that black is white and to impute to the Libyan Jamahiriyyah aggressiveness with regard to neighbouring states.

Washington, seeking to somehow breathe life into the gross political venture fabricated by itself, has resorted to a new cheap strategem. Allusion is made to certain "independent sources" which ostensibly saw that the plane was really a Libyan one. However, as usually happens when one seeks to prove the unprovable, the U.S. high-ranking spokesman did not have the sense to give any information about the nature of such "knowledgeable" sources.

Such "forgetfulness" is easy to explain considering that this entire propagandist show was worked out and prepared in advance by none other than the United States itself which is infuriated by Libya's firm anti-imperialist course.

The spectacle which is now being staged by the White House and one of the main roles in which is assigned to the Sudan is designed to become a plea for increasing U.S. military presence in the Middle East and in the Red Sea area and for bringing U.S. troops there to commit aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriya and other Arab states which reject the imperialist diktat and refuse to follow in the wake of U.S. policy and which have taken the road of independent development.

As for the "proofs" available with the U.S. Administration as to Libya's alleged involvement in the recent incident, even the Western press declines to take them at face value, describing them as unconvincing and baseless. Instead, the Western press draws attention to the circumstance that the air raid on Omdurman, the suburb of the Sudanese capital, was made ten days after the visit to Khartoum by General Vernon Walters, personal envoy of President Reagan.

Washington's provocative "Canard" concerning the plane has been exposed by Joseph Oduho, leader of the "Southern Sudan Liberation Movement". At a press conference in London he stated that the plane which bombed the suburb of the Sudanese capital did not belong to Libya at all. He said the raid was staged by the Sudanese Air Force with a view to creating a semblance of an "outside threat" to Khartoum. The plane itself belonged to the Sudanese Air Force and took off from El Obeid Air Base in the country's west. That statement, according to the London TIMES, is confirmed by Sudanese opposition figures and by British specialists on Sudan.

The Libyan Jamahiriya has strongly condemned the slanderous campaign launched against it by the United States and Sudan. It has demanded an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council to discuss the situation that has developed in the region as a result of the U.S. hostile and provocative actions. The memorandum of the People's Bureau for External Relations of Libya to the president of the U.N. Security Council points out that Washington's actions pose a serious threat to peace and security both in the region and throughout the world and are a flagrant violation of the U.N. Charter. The document recalls that the Libyan side has already drawn the attention of the council to the danger of the latest developments -- the deliveries of U.S. weapons and the sending of U.S. AWACS planes and a squadron of fighter planes to countries which neighbor on Libya.

Such is the real state of affairs behind the alleged Libyan involvement in the Omdurman incident. In these conditions, as the Libyan Government emphasized, it reserves the right to repulse aggressors encroaching on the honour and freedom of Libya.

HISTORY OF SOVIET-YAR RELATIONS REVIEWED

LD211403 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Correspondent Ahmed Ibadov "report" on 20th anniversary of USSR-YAR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation]

[Excerpts] Soviet-Yemeni relations have long traditions. They started more than half a century ago when the small hilly country was obliged to seek allies on the international arena in the face of the intrigues of British colonizers. The eyes of the Yemenis turned toward Soviet Russia, where the greatest of social revolutions had taken place. And even in the first Soviet-Yemeni Treaty of Friendship and Trade signed in November 1928 the principles of respect, sovereignty, equality of rights, noninterference in each other's internal affairs and mutual advantage were laid down.

The Soviet Union, which had scarcely recovered from the civil war and which was itself experiencing incredible difficulties, stretched out a hand of help to the friendly people.

Today Soviet exports to the YAR include agricultural machinery, construction materials, fuel, chemical products and refrigerators. The port of Al-Hudaydah itself is no longer the same as it was in 1928. It has been reconstructed completely with Soviet technical help to become the major port on the Red Sea. Every year around 75 percent of the YAR's foreign trade turnover passes through it. In accordance with the wishes of the government of the republic, Soviet specialists are now offering aid in expanding and modernizing this port.

Soviet-Yemeni cooperation today embraces all sides of the public life of the young republic: social, political, cultural, and economic. Its foundation is the treaty of friendship signed on this date 20 years ago which once again confirmed the aspiration of both sides to further develop economic and cultural ties between the Soviet Union and the YAR corresponding with the interests of friendship and fruitful cooperation. Much has been created in North Yemen during these years with the help of our country.

The Ta'izz-Al-Hudaydah and San'a'-Al-Hudaydah roads that were built in the desert with the labor of Soviet and Yemeni builders linked these most important towns to the Red Sea coast. With their extremely good technical qualities the roads became the path of great changes that boldly entered the lives of previously forgotten and remote little towns and villages in the Tihamah Desert.

With the help of Soviet cooperation the first state farm covering an area of around 1,000 hectares of arable land was set up in the Surdud oasis. The buildings of a cement works also constructed with Soviet technical help appeared near the small village of Bajil. The works, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, now supplies cement to all building sites in the country.

Soviet-Yemeni cooperation is also developing successfully in the areas of health care, education and training of national cadres. In the capital, the town of San'a', there has been a house of Soviet-Yemeni friendship in operation for many years now. It does active work on the propaganda of achievements in the area of developing relations between the two countries. Graduates and young specialists educated in the Soviet Union are frequent guests at the cultural center.

In material devoted to the significant date, the 20th anniversary of the Soviet-Yemeni Friendship Treaty, the mass media in the republic stress that cooperation with the Soviet Union, which is free of any sort of circumstantial or political stipulations, helps the YAR to struggle successfully for the consolidation of national independence and social and economic progress.

ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU TO VISIT LATE MARCH

LD252222 Moscow TASS in English 2123 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- It has been officially announced here that Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia, will come to the Soviet Union for a working friendly visit late in March at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government.

U.S. 'FUELS' PROPAGANDA IN HORN OF AFRICA

LD241630 Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] The situation in the Horn of Africa has again turned for the worse. Ethiopia and Libya are facing a propaganda campaign being fueled by Washington. Radio Moscow's observer Viktor Vinogradov comments:

It is obvious again that the United States is directly involved in the events in and around the Horn of Africa. The Somali foreign minister, Abdurahman Jama Barre, recently paid a secret visit to Washington. As soon as he departed THE WASHINGTON POST said that the American-Somali talks focused on fresh consignments of American weapons to Somalia.

Following the Somali foreign minister, the Sudanese first vice-president, 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, hurriedly boarded a plane for Washington. His talks in the United States produced an air bridge along which Khartoum is to receive large consignments of American military equipment and hardware.

Both visits were accompanied with a campaign against Ethiopia and Libya carried out simultaneously in Sudan and Somalia. Ethiopia and later Libya condemned the stepped-up militarization of Sudan and Somalia.

The Pentagon's dangerous activities in northeastern Africa could have hardly drawn an understanding view on the continent or elsewhere. A provocation was needed, an urgent and effective one. This was what Khartoum did. It announced an air raid on Omdurman, a suburb of the Sudanese capital. The plane was described at first as unidentified, then Ethiopian, and later Libyan. The United States immediately fueled the provocation by announcing a redeployment of AWACS and supporting planes to bases in Egypt and Sudan. What's more, a Pentagon spokesman gave it to understand that these planes would take part in joint Egyptian-Sudanese actions. While the campaign against Ethiopia and Libya gained momentum, the United States and France on the sly built up support for their client-regime of Hissein Habre in Chad. And so on and so forth.

Many observers, among them Americans, believe, and with good reason, that behind this dangerous provocation is Washington's striving for stronger military and political positions in the vast region of Africa. The African regimes cooperating with the United States have their own interests too. As THE TIMES of London notes, the situation in Sudan and Somalia has changed from bad to worse. Khartoum and Mogadishu, it says, need scapegoats abroad. They want to make Ethiopia and Libya such scapegoats.

S. AFRICAN TREATMENT OF NAMIBIA ISSUE HIT

LD241435 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Aleksandr Belkin commentary]

[Text] The opening of talks between parties is always useful, particularly if the topic of discussion is a hotly contested issue. There is no one who would oppose issues in southern Africa being discussed in order to create peaceful conditions. Clearly this would be an overwhelming wish of the millions of people of southern Africa, who have been tormented by war for so long, wars that have been started by the South African Government. It is also clear that the freedom and independence of Namibia is not only the concern of Namibians, but that struggle has been taken up by the OAU and the United Nations and it is now a concern of the entire international community.

When one carefully looks into this matter and weighs the substance of what South Africa has to say, it appears that it is not easy to satisfy all the parties to this dispute. What is the core of this problem? Let us analyze this whole matter. Who are the parties to this Namibian affair? In the first place, it is the Namibians themselves and their true representatives, the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO]. This has been pointed out many times and in the forums of the United Nations. On the other hand, it is South Africa who illegally occupies Namibia. South Africa, for obvious reasons, would not want to see Namibia free: For many years South Africa has thwarted all attempts to free Namibia. Where do the stooges fit in, in the question of freeing Namibia? How does the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola organization fit in? Of course, they may very well fit in since they are sheltered by South Africa in Namibia. The parties to this dispute have been joined by South Africa in order to complicate the solution.

Second, why is South Africa interested in holding talks anyway, since the manner and method of settling the issue of Namibian independence has already been set down through Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council? The South African authorities are silent about these provisions; it is clear that they want to sidetrack it.

The South African Government has never on its own invoked the provisions of this resolution. It is plain that they don't center their argument around it, and therefore they can hardly be expected to implement it. Need we be surprised of this? Has the essential character of apartheid aims changed? No. It is clear that the Pretoria government is not interested in any changes in southern Africa.

To illustrate this, Pretoria has been throwing her weight around and intimidating neighboring territories. Why is South Africa busy trying to arrange talks with Maputo? Does this mean that South Africa has changed her attitude and has begun to respect newly independent African states? South Africa may not be able to brush SWAPO aside for long, but may yet again bring another issue to the forefront on the issue of Namibia. The truth must be faced.

Talks may be useful on the issue of Namibia if they are based on the UN plan for that country. Such talks will be held between SWAPO and South Africa. So, the president of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma, is right in rejecting the points raised by South Africa which are said to be new. The unflinching prosecution of the armed struggle shows the dedication of SWAPO in the freedom and independence of Namibia.

26 Mar 84

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

USSR, CONGO MARK ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC TIES

Cables Exchanged

PM231116 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] In connection with the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of the Congo the USSR and Congolese Ministries of Foreign Affairs exchanged congratulatory cables. The cables make a high appraisal of the contribution made by the USSR and the People's Republic of the Congo to the struggle for social progress, peace, and the elimination of the threat of another world war and express confidence that Soviet-Congolese relations, based on the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation concluded between the two countries, will be given further all-around development.

Treaty Anniversary Hailed

PM251914 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 5

[F. Konopikhin article under the rubric "The 20th Anniversary of Soviet-Congolese Diplomatic Relations": "A Memorable Milestone"]

[Text] Twenty years ago, on 16 March 1964, the Soviet Union and the Congo established diplomatic relations. This broke down the barrier which the colonialists were trying to place in the way of the rapprochement between the young developing state and the socialist countries.

The 20 years that have elapsed since then have shown the fruitfulness of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Congolese and Soviet peoples. Relying on the support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, the People's Republic of the Congo has achieved tangible successes in consolidating its economic independence and deepening socioeconomic transformations.

The foundation for consolidating and further developing Soviet-Congolese relations and for the two countries' common positions in the joint struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and racism and for peace and social progress was formed by the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation concluded between the USSR and the Congo in May 1961.

The spectrum of Soviet-Congolese cooperation is broad and multifaceted. The Congo's first state-owned enterprise for the extraction and enrichment of complex ores was built and commissioned in the (Mfuati) region with the USSR's assistance. Hundreds of the republic's young citizens have received vocational training either in the Soviet Union or from Soviet instructors working in the Congo. Cadres of geologists, miners, engineers, drilling workers, and machine operators have been trained whereas previously they had to be brought in from Western Europe. The Congolese people have addressed many words of gratitude to the Soviet doctors working at the capital's Blanche Gomez maternity home, the largest in the country.

The radio station the Voice of the Congolese Revolution has called the relations between the two countries an example of equitable and mutually beneficial cooperation between a socialist and a developing state. Soviet people fully share that assessment.

SOVIET NAVAL SQUADRON TO VISIT CUBA 26 MARCH

LD231816 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 23 TASS -- Under an agreement, a squadron of Soviet warships consisting of the Leningrad anti-submarine cruiser, the Udaloy big anti-submarine ship, a diesel submarine and a tanker, under the command of Vice-Admiral Fedor Starozhilov, will arrive for an official friendly visit to Havana port on March 26.

CUBA, ANGOLA RAP S. AFRICA, U.S. OVER NAMIBIA

PM231005 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 84 First Edition p 5

[Igor Tarutin "Commentator's Column": "Constructive Approach"]

[Text] Talks have taken place in Havana between a delegation from the People's Republic of Angola headed by J.E. dos Santos, chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, and F. Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the republic's Councils of State and Ministers. The sides discussed the situation in southern Africa.

It is well known that an extremely tense situation has prevailed there recently. The Namibian problem remains unresolved. Enjoying the patronage of imperialist forces and primarily the United States, South Africa is sabotaging the implementation of the UN resolution on the granting of independence to Namibia.

But is not only Namibia that is at issue. South Africa has essentially launched large-scale subversive activity also against the neighboring African states. It has set in motion methods of military, economic, and political pressure, ranging from acts of open armed aggression to trade sanctions. A special place has been given to the internal destabilization of young states. It is implemented by puppet groups of bandits who are fully maintained by Pretoria, like UNITA in Angola and the MWR in Mozambique.

Nevertheless, and despite the fact the hostile intrigues have inflicted considerable damage on the "frontline states," South Africa's attempts to bring them to their knees have failed. Having realized that it has failed to crush the "frontline states" and force them to renounce their support for the region's national liberation movements, South Africa has started maneuvering. Pretoria is now trying to don the robes of a "lover of peace." An agreement has been signed with Mozambique, and the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola under observation by a bilateral Angolan-South African commission has been announced.

The United States has actively joined in these talks and, as is well known, it fully supports and directs the "new course" of its strategic ally in southern Africa. Nevertheless, while demonstrating a "desire for settlement" for tactical reasons, the racists have not abandoned their goals. Evidence of this can be seen, for example, in the petty intrigues involving "internal" Namibian parties which they want to present as an alternative to the South West African People's Organization, recognized as the sole legitimate spokesman of the Namibian people. Nor have there been any firm guarantees yet about ceasing assistance to counterrevolutionary gangs.

In their joint declaration Angola and Cuba reaffirmed their principled position. They demanded the total withdrawal of South African forces from Angolan territory, full implementation of the UN resolution on Namibia, and cessation of all aggressive actions and threats against Angola by South Africa, the United States, and their allies. All these are indispensable conditions for ensuring the independence and fundamental interests of southern Africa's peoples.

GRENADA REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY REMEMBERED

PM231629 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[Article by N. Mostovets: "Grenada: Trampled Freedom"]

[Text] It was 5 years ago that the news that a popular revolution had taken place on a small Caribbean island flew round the world. The hated dictatorship which had enjoyed the imperialist states' support fell. A people's government came to power, announcing the building of a new, democratic society.

That was the second people's revolution in the Caribbean, 20 years after the victorious Cuban revolution. Grenada was followed by Nicaragua, where the people, after many years of struggle, expelled the bloody dictator Somoza. Under the blows of the people's masses who had risen to the revolutionary struggle the colonial systems in the Caribbean basin began to collapse.

The history of Grenada, a small island with an area of 344 square km and a population of about 115,000, is rich in tempestuous events. For centuries the people of the island struggled against foreign colonialists. But it was only in 1958 that Britain granted Grenada, like its other colonies in the Caribbean, limited autonomy. And when in 1967 Grenada received the status of a "state associated with Great Britain," with complete internal self-determination, the prime minister was E. Gairy, leader of the United Labor Party, which won the elections. He steered a course toward cooperation with the local and foreign bourgeoisie, primarily the British bourgeoisie. Grenada in fact remained a British colony.

But the struggle for genuine independence did not cease. It was headed by the New Jewel Movement Party headed by Maurice Bishop and formed in March 1973, which put to the people a manifesto calling on them to become the masters of their own country.

The masses' demand that the country be granted full independence led to the point where on 7 February 1974 Grenada received independence within the framework of the British Commonwealth. However, independence failed to bring relief to the Grenadian people and there were no changes in their life.

The masses' dissatisfaction with the bloody regime increase with every passing day and on 13 March 1979, at the call of the New Jewel Movement Party, they swept away the hated dictatorship. A popular government headed by Maurice Bishop came to power.

Bishop himself described the revolution thus: "The day of 13 March 1979 was a bright dawn for the people of Grenada and the working people of the entire Caribbean. The masses who rose up against Gairy, in the words of the Caribbean poet Edward Brathwaite, "broke down the door and entered the morning, confident of their future." We say resolutely: "Enough! Injustice, tyranny, and exploitation are doomed. A new and glorious chapter in Grenada's history is beginning: The building of a society of equality and justice by the poor, for the poor." [quotemarks as published]

The popular government inherited a grave legacy: mass unemployment, hunger, and poverty reigned in the country, the economy was in recession, and the treasury had been plundered. Losing no time, a program of broad democratic transformations was adopted which included granting political and socioeconomic rights to the people, implementing agrarian reform, and taking steps aimed at creating a state sector of the economy, abolishing the rule of foreign monopolies, and improving the people's living standard.

Grenada became a state of popular democracy expressing the interests of the workers and peasants, and its appearance began to change rapidly. The land holdings of Gairy and his stooges were expropriated under the agrarian reform, excess land was confiscated from foreign and local big landowners, and agro-industrial enterprises and state farms were created.

Grenada was recognized by the majority of Latin American countries and many European, Asian, and African countries. The young free state became a member of the Nonaligned Movement and joined its Coordination Bureau. Grenada established diplomatic relations with over 60 countries, including all the socialist community states.

While the progressive, democratic forces of the whole world welcomed the Grenadian revolution, among the U.S. ruling circles, which still regard Central America and the Caribbean as their private domain, it generated alarm and hatred. The very next day -- that is, 14 March 1979 -- officially expressing "grave concern at the events," Washington began to pursue with regard to Grenada an overtly hostile policy aimed at stifling the Grenadian revolution.

The Washington administration's actions with regard to Grenada are a model of the policy of hegemony pursued by the United States in Central America and the Caribbean. Denying the right of the region's peoples to self-determination and independence in domestic and foreign policy, Washington is doing everything to delay the hour of victory of the liberation movements: U.S. imperialism is openly exporting counterrevolution to those countries where the forces of democracy and progress have succeeded.

The United States began to erect a "cordon sanitaire" around the island. The CIA drafted a plan codenamed "Pyramid" which provided for the organization of a naval blockade and economic boycott against Grenada and the deprivation of credits and loans from international banks and the EEC.

The U.S. special services repeatedly tried to overthrow the people's revolutionary government and to kill New Jewel leader and Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. At the same time CIA agents were harming the country's economy, sowing distrust in the revolutionary government. Nor did the reactionary leadership of the U.S. Eastern Seaboard Longshoremen's Union remain aloof. Through its agents it created a so-called "port workers union" in Grenada. The stores and taxi fleet belonged to 100 "workers." It was a veritable Mafia, which constantly threatened to declare a strike and paralyze Grenada's links with the outside world. The internal counterrevolution was also activated. The planters connected with the comprador bourgeoisie sabotaged progressive transformations. Their actions merged with the sabotage by a section of the urban bourgeoisie, although the people's authorities had not affected its interests.

Subversive elements mounted "psychological warfare" against the people's power: They published counterrevolutionary leaflets and spread provocative rumors. In their antigovernment propaganda they were supported from the Island of Antigua by a powerful VOA radio transmitter echoed by a branch of Detusche Welle based on the Island of Montserrat.

The White House, the CIA, and the Pentagon prepared actively for aggression against revolutionary Grenada and merely waited for a convenient pretext. But the flexible policy of the Bishop government and its broad ties with the outside world, where it found support, thwarted U.S. imperialism's plans.

However, by the end of the third year of the people's republic's existence serious differences began to arise in the party and government leadership and were intensified under the influence of CIA agents who did everything to kindle contradictions within the party, split its leadership, and, having thus destabilized the situation, generate a political crisis in the country.

In the middle of October 1983 the situation in the party leadership became very tense. Matters reached the point where M. Bishop was placed under house arrest. There was thus a merging of the plotters who sought to seize power on the pretext of the need to eliminate the 'errors' allegedly perpetrated by Bishop on the one hand and by the internal counterrevolution on the other. A few days later M. Bishop was killed.

Washington immediately decided to exploit the situation which had taken shape in Grenada and initiated direct preparations for armed intervention.

On 25 October the U.S. Marines invaded the small country, which presented no threat either to the United States or to neighboring Caribbean countries.

The Grenadian people offered stubborn resistance to the occupiers. Although it was unorganized, even the bourgeois press was forced to admit that it proved difficult to suppress the Grenadians' resistance to the interventionists. The defenders' strongholds at Fort Frederick and Richmond Hill held out for a particularly long time. The Cubans who had taken part in the construction of the international airport fought bravely with the Grenadians. But ultimately the Grenadian revolution was drowned in blood.

The world was indignant at the piratical action perpetrated on orders from the White House. Its allegations that the United States had been undertaking a "rescue mission" to save the lives of U.S. medical students studying in Grenada and to "restore democracy" and defend the United States' "vital interests" on the island could mislead no one. The Security Council, the 38th UN General Assembly session, all socialist countries, and the governments of the majority of developing and capitalist countries, including Washington's NATO allies, denounced the U.S. aggression against Grenada, describing it as an illegal and immoral act.

The Soviet Union's position was set forth in the TASS statement which said: "By its actions against Grenada the U.S. Government has demonstrated its total disregard for universally accepted norms of international law and has sullied the lofty principles of the UN Charter. This is direct evidence that Washington, to achieve its predatory goals, has no intention of considering the people's right to independent development and is issuing an overt and blatant challenge to the peoples' will and world public opinion."

Some 4 and 1/2 months have elapsed since Grenada's occupation. But its people have had time to discover the "delights" of the export model of "American-style democracy": bombings, killings, mass arrests, concentration camps, interrogation and torture, and the annihilation of anyone who resists the aggressor. Expanding the campaign of repression against the members and supports of the New Jewel Movement Party, banned by the occupiers, Washington is helping to restore the reactionary political parties rejected by the people and to return the counterrevolutionary rabble to Grenada. The pro-imperialist groupings disbanded after the revolution, primarily former dictator Gairy's United Labor Party, have already gained the right to exist. With U.S. assistance Gairy himself has returned to Grenada and intends to seek the helm of power again.

Grenada is rapidly becoming a U.S. Navy base. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz stated during a recent visit to Saint George's that the United States intends to remain in Grenada for a long time in order "with its aid" to control the entire Caribbean basin.

Seeking to transform Grenada from a sovereign country into what is in fact a colony, the U.S. interventionists are continuing to perpetrate tyranny and violence on the island they have seized. With the aid of terror directed primarily against the activists of the New Jewel Movement Party, trade union figures, and fighters of the people's revolutionary army and people's militia, the interventionists are trying to suppress any resistance from the patriots. Using the press, radio, and local counterrevolutionaries, the occupation authorities and their accomplices are seeking to compel the island's population to come to terms with the overthrow of the progressive regime.

But the Grenadian people will not give in, they have not been broken. The idea of the revolution live on. And that has given the famous Colombian writer Garcia Marquez grounds for writing the following prophetic words: "Like Salvador Allende, Bishop was killed to be usurped. But no one can usurp him in the people's memory."

MATERIALS CONCERNING LUGANSK TANKER INCIDENT

Guzhenko Comments

PM231203 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 6

[V. Shmyganovskiy report under the rubric "From the Scene of the Event": "This Happened in the Port of Sandino"]

[Text] The whole world has heard the report of the events in the Nicaraguan port of Sandino when the Soviet tanker Lugansk struck a mine on the approach to the port. The Soviet Government has placed the responsibility for this grave crime -- an act of brigandage and piracy -- on the U.S. Administration.

What actually happened in the far-off harbor in struggling Nicaragua? It was after 1300 local time (in Moscow it was already late evening) when the Novorossiysk Steamship Company's tanker Lugansk, loaded with over 30,000 metric tons of fuel, was approaching its mooring in the roads with a pilot on board. The weather was normal; visibility was good. The mooring team headed by Third Mate N. Tretyakov was keeping watch in a state of full readiness in the steamship's foredeck.

At 1352 a powerful explosion occurred in the area of the starboard forecastle. The mooring team was thrown about the deck. The other seamen rushed first to help their injured comrades. N. Tretyakov, Seamen A. Samkharadze and V. Strogonov, and Botswain V. Zelenov were injured.

Two men -- Tretyakov and Samkharadze -- needed hospitalization. The crew did not lose their composure. Captain A. Azov's first order was to determine the effects of the explosion. The pumphouse was flooded, the bow firefighting station was put out of action, pipelines were blown open, and a number of machines were damaged. Fortunately, the fuel was not ignited. The struggle to save the ship began, and the hole was patched up.

Why was there no fire? First, because the oil tanks were a considerable distance from the area of the explosion, and, second, because the steamer observed the safety rules meticulously: Everything was duly sealed off and there was no fuel vapor "escaping" along the deck. Otherwise even the least spark could have caused irreparable damage.

I have written many times about our seamen's staunchness and courage in emergencies. But all these were caused by the struggle against the elements or resulted from the so-called human factor when a single mistake or incorrect order by the ship's commander led to an accident.

What factor was at work this time in Nicaragua in case of a peaceful Soviet ship? It cannot be called anything other than skulduggery and international banditry.

It has been the honored mission of seamen from time immemorial to link continents, countries, and people. Our merchant fleet has always fulfilled this mission honorably and enjoys universal respect for its skill, the professionalism of its navigators, and its sense of duty. It is also a tradition of our people to assist our friends at their first request.

"One's attention is drawn," T.B. Guzhenko, USSR minister of the Maritime Fleet, said, "by the single-mindedness of these actions against Nicaragua and its friends. Similar acts of provocation had been committed against ships from other countries prior to the Lugansk incident. Now the aim is to intimidate Soviet seamen. I think that those responsible for this adventure are well known. The Soviet Government's note clearly pointed out that the United States will bear the full responsibility for the consequences that a continuation of actions of this kind could entail."

[Shmyganovskiy] "Timofey Borisovich, what is the latest news from the Lugansk?"

[Guzhenko] "The ship is at anchor, healing its wounds and preparing to unload its cargo. Here is a typical sidelight: The crews of our ships the Polessk and the Ilya Ulyanov, which were in the vicinity, immediately offered their assistance to the Lugansk. But the Novorossiysk seamen assured them that they could cope with all the work themselves. I have been able to talk with the captain by radio telephone. Audibility was poor but I can report that all is calm and in order on the tanker. People are carrying out their duty without panic or fuss."

Lugansk Heading for USSR

LD250927 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Nikolay Neych report]

[Text] Judging by your reactions, comrades, there is one other event which arouses your interest. For example, in his letter Comrade (Daroshenko), a resident of Sverdlovsk, speaks of indignation and anger. He is referring to the malicious sabotage against the Soviet tanker Lugansk, which on 20 March struck a mine laid by U.S. mercenaries at Puerto Sandino in Nicaragua. What is the situation of the tanker? One hour ago, I rang the official on duty at the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet. His reply was brief but very reassuring. Here it is:

[Controller] This is Duty Controller (?Voskov) speaking.

[Neych] Good morning, I'm a correspondent for radio news.

[Controller] Good morning.

[Neych] Is there any news about the Lugansk?

[Controller] Well, the only news is that it left at 1800 yesterday.

[Neych] For what destination?

[Controller] For home. For Novorossiysk.

[Neych] Well, that's good news. So, everything is all right there, is it?

[Controller] Yes. Everything is all right. All members of the crew are on board. Everything is okay.

[Neych] Well, thank you very much.

[Controller] Don't mention it.

[Neych] All the best.

Mine Has 'Boomerang' Effect

LD242049 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 24 Mar 84

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by political observer Igor Fesunenکو]

[Text] Hello, comrades! The mine which exploded in Sandino Port damaged not only the Soviet tankers but like a boomerang it returned to its senders and caused the same irreparable damage to the White House as did the invasion of Grenada or the shelling of the peaceful population of Lebanon from the large-calibre guns of the battleship New Jersey. The world sees and understands that Washington's entire monstrous policy of state terrorism contradicts not only the norms of international law but also the very basic rights of human existence.

People now ask the question: What would happen, where would our planet be if other states also behaved like the United States? Washington does not like the Nicaraguan revolution and this is considered to be sufficient reason to wage an undeclared war against the country, and also for putting mines in its territorial waters.

Well, there are already quite a few states on our planet which do not like -- and let us note that they have reason -- the social system in the United States itself. And the question is: What would Washington say if it discovered that its ideological opponents are throwing mines around the port of New York?

Under the pretext of defense of American students, the 82d Paratroop Division is occupying Grenada. The entire world knows that in nearly 5 years of the rule of the progressive government in Grenada, supported by the people, not the slightest harm was done to any of the American students on Grenada. But the whole world also knows the serious danger to which the citizens of many other countries, diplomats, businessmen, and tourists are subjected in the United States itself.

Let us recall the repeated shootings and other terrorist actions against foreign diplomatic missions in Washington or New York. And we ask the question: Would the United States like it if, defending its citizens, the state concerned sent paratroopers to Manhattan in New York, let us say? The answer is clear, I believe.

The civilized world will never sink to the level of terrorism and banditry in interstate relations. But nor does the civilized world intend to forgive those who see our planet earth as an untamed Wild West prairie and who consider other peoples and countries to be irresponsible and unable to protect themselves -- like the Indians!

U.S. 'Slander, Lies'

LD242123 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 24 Mar 84

["Lies Have Short Legs" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vyacheslav Chernyshov writes:

The most unscrupulous slander and lies have been resorted to in Washington as a favourite trick in an attempt to shake off responsibility for the act of sabotage at the Nicaraguan port against the Soviet tanker "Lugansk". "Explanations" by U.S. officials contain an attempt as impudent as it is blasphemous to present the case as if the USA, ostensibly, was not involved in that act of banditry and that the USSR's note of protest was sent to a "wrong address". Moreover, Washington slanderers resort to fabrications to the effect that the Russians hardly have a right to accuse others of frequent flare-ups of violence in the area, since they themselves allegedly stir up a conflict in Central America and the Caribbean.

Such a cynicism jars even upon mass media both in the United States itself and among its closest allies. At a press conference in the U.S. Department of State, its official spokesman pointedly declined to answer the question how the USA would have reacted to a similar case with a U.S. ship striking a mine in the Strait of Hormuz.

The London DAILY TELEGRAPH writes that the way mines are planted off the Nicaraguan coast leaves no doubt about U.S. direct interference. THE TIMES adds that the planting of mines at Nicaraguan ports was carried out by a special sabotage group of commandos who were trained and equipped by the CIA and who acted from the territory of Honduras under the direction of Americans. Even the U.S. NEW YORK TIMES described the act of sabotage as an act of war, emphasizing that hardly anyone would believe that the "los contras" could plant mines in the path of Soviet ships without getting a tacit consent on the part of the USA. The same newspaper points out that the planting of mines on the sea approaches to Nicaragua is part and parcel of efforts being made by the United States through CIA channels with a view to undermining the Nicaraguan Government.

Resorting to impudent slander, Washington thereby most cynically drew on the abominable "experience" of provocateurs from the Nazi "big lie" department. It is a matter of common knowledge that it is precisely the United States, and this is not concealed, incidentally, by the U.S. Administration either, that carries out direct interference in the affairs of sovereign states of Central America, finances, trains, equips and directs bands of mercenaries and thugs that invade the territory of Nicaragua. It is precisely the United States that is conducting an undeclared war against Nicaragua by every means, including that against foreign ships which make commercial voyages to Nicaraguan ports. This undeclared war is a direct violation of one of the basic principles of international law -- the freedom of sea navigation.

It also becomes increasingly evident that the present Washington rulers have borrowed not only propagandist specimens from the arsenals of the fascist reich. Ever since the post war time, there has been no such administration which would so overtly and blood-thirstily as the Reagan one set on the task of liquidating legitimate governments in other states, the governments which are unwelcome to the USA for this or that reason. And not only set such a task but actively seeks to accomplish it by resorting to all means -- blackmail and pressure, acts of economic and psychological sabotage, the CIA's undercover operations, direct intervention and aggression.

Such is the U.S. "peace-makers'" sanguinary style which manifests itself around the globe -- from Grenada and Nicaragua to Lebanon and Afghanistan. No exercises in demagoguery and lies will help gentlemen from Washington to get away with it and evade responsibility for the policy of terrorism, arbitrariness and interference in the affairs of sovereign independent states, the policy which is incompatible with the generally-accepted norms of law and morality.

EL SALVADOR ELECTION 'FARCE', U.S. AID SCORNE

LD252337 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1027 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Excerpt] New York, 25 Mar (TASS) -- TASS correspondent I. Ignatyev reports:

A grandiose political spectacle called "presidential elections" is being staged in El Salvador today at a time of unceasing civil war. The purpose of the present farce, which has been organized and paid for by Washington, is to impart a semblance of "democracy" to the bloody regime of this Central American country, which is carrying out a policy of genocide against its own people. According to CBS TV the U.S. Treasury allocated \$10.5 million for these purposes. The television company stressed that the United States is deeply involved in the Salvadoran elections although it claims to be neutral. As an official U.S. spokesman openly told the BOSTON GLOBE, the holding of the elections is "crucially important" for the United States, since the administration will be able to continue its policy in El Salvador if the results are recognized. "Washington", THE WASHINGTON POST points out, "supports the elections because they will give a semblance of legality to the Salvadoran authorities, thereby encouraging a skeptical Congress to approve the White House request for increased military assistance to the country."

During his latest radio address yesterday President Reagan again demanded that Congress allocate as soon as possible an additional \$93 million for military assistance to the antipeople regime in El Salvador. He resorted to open intimidation of the congressmen, referring to the "growing communist threat". "The stability of our friends in the region and the security of our own borders both depend on who wins," Reagan declared.

The struggle for the post of new U.S. puppet in El Salvador is between representatives of right-wing and extreme right-wing parties and no one else. The leading contenders include Jose Napoleon Duarte, the former president of the country and leader of the Christian Democratic Party, whose hands are stained with the blood of thousands of Salvadoran citizens killed during his rule. His chief rival is Roberto D'Aubuisson, the leader of the nationalist republican alliance, who is backed by the CIA and the murderers of the "death squads" and who even former U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, R. White, described as a "pathological killer". In an eloquent admission made on the eve of the elections to THE NEW YORK TIMES an American diplomat said that these two figures are among the "most despised" politicians in El Salvador.

CHENENKO OPENS AGRO-INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE

LD261149 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Having set forth a broad program for enhancing the well-being of the Soviet people, the 26th CPSU Congress put to the fore the task of improving food product supplies to them. This has been embodied in practice in the USSR Food program. It is being implemented at present, and is a very important integral part of the party's economic strategy at the contemporary stage. The food supply problem is central in the current decade in both the economic and the political spheres. Prime importance is attached to enhancing the efficiency of use of the potential created in agriculture and to fuller use of resources directed toward developing the agro-industrial complex.

The first results of work in implementing the Food Program and issues connected with it, which are of vital importance for the country, are being discussed by the all-union economic conference on the problems of the agro-industrial complex. The conference was convened by decision of the CPSU Central Committee, and opened today in Moscow's Great Kremlin Palace.

Those gathered greeted Comrades Chernenko, Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Gorbachev, Gromyko, Ustinov, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Chebrikov, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Ligachev, Rusakov and Ryzhkov with stormy and prolonged applause. Also in the presidium were deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; the heads of ministries, departments and agro-industrial associations; representatives of party, administrative and public organizations; and front-rankers of production. Taking part in the conference are the first secretaries and secretaries dealing with the agro-industrial complex of Union Republic Central Committees and those of party kraykoms and obkoms; deputy chairmen of Councils of Ministers of Union Republics; chairmen of commissions on agro-industrial complex issues; chairmen of councils of kray, oblast and rayon agro-industrial associations; scientists, chiefs and economists of agricultural organs, kolkhozes and sovkhoses and enterprises and organizations providing services for them; and innovators in arable farming and stockbreeding.

The conference was opened by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was greeted with prolonged applause. He said [read by announcer]:

Comrades. The party Central Committee recognizes the need to hold an all-union economic conference on the problems of the agro-industrial complex. Its aim is to discuss pressing problems of our work in implementing the decisions of the May 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the USSR Food Program. The present-day tasks of party, administrative and economic bodies to further increase the efficiency of agriculture and other branches of this very important sector of the economy are to be defined specifically.

As is known, our party sees concern for the development of agriculture not only as an economic task, but as a paramount sociopolitical task.

We proceed from the premise that a highly developed, efficiently functioning agro-industrial complex is an essential condition for further increasing the material well-being of the people, and for a growth in the efficiency of the whole of the country's economy.

The party and the Soviet Government continually bear in mind the problem of the development of agriculture and those branches of the economy linked with it, Comrade Chernenko continued. Immense capital investments and material resources of the country are allocated to this.

Great attention is being devoted to strengthening the economy of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and the social development of rural areas, and to improving the organization and labor incentives of the workers. This is bringing its results. Production and delivery to the state of agricultural produce is increasing; the level and balance of consumption of food products is being enhanced.

In general, the Soviet people can see for themselves that the Food Program drafted by the party is being implemented stage by stage. But this is only the beginning. Ahead are many big and large-scale matters. Today we are faced with the task of attaining higher levels in production of grain and industrial crops, and in supplying food products to the people, first and foremost meat, milk, fruit, and vegetables.

The chief path to achieve what has been mapped out is speeding up the transfer of agriculture to the intensive track of development, and a considerable increase in the returns on the potential that has been created at kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This requires fresh approaches and a decisive improvement in the work of agro-industrial associations, an improvement in the level of all economic work, broad introduction of financial autonomy and collective subcontracting, and the use of other economic levers; in general, the improvement of everything that we understand under management and the economic mechanism.

It is understandable that for this we need not only to improve the organizational methods of leadership, but also to enhance the level of economic thinking of our cadres. Speaking frankly, there is very little time for such work, and it is important to resolve, on a compressed time-scale and persistently and consistently, the problems which arise in the development of the agro-industrial complex. This is just what people expect of us.

The CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Chernenko said, considers that profound, concerned and frank discussion of the whole range of these issues is an important stage in the work on fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the economic strategies worked out by it for the eighties.

Allow me, comrades, to wish you success in the work of the all-union conference, and to announce its opening.

A report on the tasks of party, administrative and economic bodies in increasing the economic efficiency of agriculture and other branches of the agro-industrial complex was delivered by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was warmly greeted by those present.

The conference's participants, speaking in the debates, are discussing ways to increase the intensification of agricultural production, and are putting forward specific proposals aimed at ensuring the fulfillment of the USSR Food Program.

The all-union economic conference will continue its work on 27 March.

LENINGRAD OBKOM PERSONNEL CHANGES REPORTED

PM251605 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Experience, Knowledge, and Strength for the Building of Communism! Plenum of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom"]

[Text] A plenum of the Leningrad Obkom was held at the Smolnyy yesterday.

The plenum discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee February (1984) Plenum and the tasks of the Leningrad party organization stemming from the propositions and conclusions contained in the speeches by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum and to the voters of Moscow's Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug.

A report was delivered by L.N. Zaykov, first secretary of the Leningrad party obkom.

Taking part in the debate were A.F. Dubov, secretary of the Leningrad Gorkom; Hero of Socialist Labor I.V. Zakharov, leader of a team of fitters and assembly workers at the "Ki-ovskiy Zavod" Association; Hero of Socialist Labor N.F. Fedorov, first secretary of the Tosno CPSU Gorkom; A.N. Vyshokikh, mechanized milking foreman at the "Lesnoye" State Pedigree Breeding Plant; B.S. Andreyev, chairman of the oblast trade union council; T.L. Belyayeva, weaver at the E. Thaelmann Combine producing fine and industrial cloth; Yu.I. Vasilyev, party committee secretary at the "Izhorskiy Zavod" Association; I.S. Maslennikov, producer-director at the "Lenfilm" Movie Studio; and V.V. Frolov, first secretary of the Vasileostrovskiy CPSU Raykom.

L.N. Zaykov delivered the concluding speech.

The plenum approved a long-term plan for the obkom's work in 1984-1985. Organizational questions were discussed.

A.P. Dumachev was relieved of his duties as second secretary of the CPSU Obkom in connection with his election to the post of first secretary of the Leningrad Gorkom.

P.P. Mozhayev, previously working as secretary of the CPSU Obkom, was elected obkom second secretary.

A.N. Gerasimov, previously working as chairman of the oblast people's control committee, was elected secretary of the CPSU Obkom.

V.I. Meleshchenko, chairman of the oblast people's control committee, was elected member of the CPSU Obkom Bureau. He was relieved of his duties as chief of the CPSU Obkom Economic Section.

Yu.F. Solovyev was relieved of his duties as member of the CPSU Obkom Bureau in connection with his appointment as USSR Minister of Industrial Construction.

Ye.M. Lavrov, instructor at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational and Party Work Department, took part in the plenum's work.

UDMURT ASSR RAILROAD DISASTER REPORTED

PM261100 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 March 1984 Morning Edition carries on page 6 under the rubric "Courage" a 1,200-word report datelined Mzhga/Izhevsk by special correspondent Vl. Arsenyev entitled "With 800 Meters to Spare."

"On 2 March at 0535 Moscow time a freight train crashed at km 1,033 on the Gorkiy Railroad. The train consisted of 70 cars loaded with various goods, including 20 tank cars with liquefied gas. At the site of the accident five high-voltage power lines (35 and 110 kilovolts) pass over the railroad. This happened at a distance of 800 meters from the Mzhga city boundary in the Udmurt ASSR..." according to the official report on the accident.

The author describes the prompt action of fire department members in hastening to the site of the accident. There a "horrific spectacle" awaited them. "The depression through which the line ran was ablaze. On either side of the broken rails lay heaps of mangled metal, some ten cars in all. The power lines were melting in the heat and coming down. And four tank cars with liquefied gas were bulging, ready to explode...."

Taking great risks, the fire fighters went into action. The front section of the train was towed to Mozhga station. It became obvious that the trouble lay with the 19th car -- a heavy 100-metric ton transporter "which was obviously in the wrong place. According to regulations it should go at the end of the train." It took "over an hour" to put out the fire, which covered an area of "approximately 3,000 square meters": 80 people and 16 fire-fighting vehicles took part in the operation. Great haste was made to restore the line, as many trains from Siberia pass through Mozhga on their way to the center of the country. The only piece of good luck was that the accident happened outside the city boundary. The fact that the fire was quickly and efficiently extinguished and the traffic restored, is "entirely to the credit of the fire fighters," Arsenyev writes.

"As you can see, fearless people have not died out in our fatherland," Arsenyev concludes. "That ought to be a cause for joy. However, the sad thing is that as a rule, risking their bodies, they cover up holes caused by slovenliness and carelessness. It was fortunate that none of the fire fighters perished. Could they have done so? Yes. Death passed them by but it did not pass by the welder who was killed later, during restoration work (owing to imprudence, it is true) while sawing through a mangled rail. The tension inside the metal was such that it snapped and killed the man.

"I do not know what conclusions the investigation which the transport prosecution office is conducting will reach. It is possible that the people who put the train together at Agryz station will be made answerable. It is quite possible too that the people at Kauchuk station who allowed defective tank cars out of the yard will be brought to book. It is probable also that light will be shed on the degree of responsibility of the train driver and his assistant if they are not without blame, either.

"But of course, the Mozhga disaster is an exception, it is what is described as out of the ordinary. Hundreds and thousands of freight trains run on the railroads outside our windows, and nothing happens to them. But are all their cars in good condition, are all the tank cars carrying gas and oil products really and honestly tightly sealed? Does not some happy-go-lucky traffic controller suffer from a chronic head cold or shortsightedness?

"I am not convinced. At the moment I am not convinced..."

POLITICAL WORKERS' STUDY COURSE CONCLUDES

PM251717 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 84 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Cadre Training Course"]

[Text] A training course for chiefs of political enlightenment houses of Union Republic Communist Party Central Committees, Kraykoms and Obkoms has ended at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences' Institute for Improving the Skills of Leading Party and Soviet Cadres. During the month they studied topical questions of the theory and practice of communist construction, economic policy and international activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state, ideological work, and the scientific fundamentals of party propaganda and the economic education of working people in the light of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and the provisions and conclusions put forward in the speeches and addresses delivered by K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The students were addressed by the following: B.I. Stukalin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department; R.I. Kosolapov, chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST; A.M. Rekunkov, USSR prosecutor general; F.G. Panachin, M.S. Kapitsa, L.A. Kostin, and A.K. Romanov, USSR deputy ministers and deputy chairmen of state committees; R.G. Yakovskiy, rector of the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences; and A.N. Kolyakin, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee and professor at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences.

Considerable study time was devoted to questions of improving the style and methods of political and economic education, mass political work among the working people, and improving the activity of houses of political enlightenment. Ya.P. Pogrebnyak, secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and V.M. Gorchakov, secretary of the Kaluga Turbine Plant Party Committee, delivered reports on the experience of organizing economic training and education in labor collectives; and Yu.A. Grigoryev, secretary of the USSR State Bolshoy Theater Party Committee, and A.I. Stepanova, secretary of the Moscow Arts Theater Party Committee, delivered reports on the Marxist-Leninist education of the creative intelligentsia.

Meeting with academics were held in which the following participated: Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Academicians A.G. Aganbegyan, I.A. Glebov, and B.A. Rybakov; and V.A. Vinogradov, Ye.I. Kapustin, and V.P. Chichkanov, corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Classes were held at Moscow City and Oblast Raykoms and Gorkoms, industrial enterprises party committees, and in the Moscow CPSU Obkom and Gorkom House of Political Enlightenment, where students became acquainted with the practical organization of working people's political and economic training.

ARMENIAN PARTY CC PLENUM CONCLUDES 7 MAR

GF251730 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 6 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] The Armenian Communist Party Central Committee held its plenum on 7 March. It reviewed the republic's party organization's tasks in light of the results of the extraordinary February CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the instructions and conclusions made in the speeches of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum and during his meeting with Moscow's Kuybyshev Electoral Okrug electors.

K.S. Demirchyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, made a speech.

During the exchange of views on the address the following delivered speeches: Comrades L.N. Nersesyan, first secretary of the Yerevan Gorkom; E.M. Korakosyan, chairman of Leninakan people's deputies City Soviet Executive Committee; P.A. Davtyan, excavators brigade leader at Dzankezur copper molybdenum combine; G.A. Oganyan, first secretary of the Kirovakan Gorkom; C.B. Mayilyan, brigade leader of Mrkashad sovkhos at Nayiri Rayon; D.G. Aliyev, editor of SOVET ERMANISTANT newspaper; O.D. Agorpyan, first secretary of the Azizbekov Raykom; G.A. Galoyan, academician secretary of the Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences; E.S. Gabrielyan, Armenian SSR Minister of Health; and B.G. Stepanyan, teacher at the Yerevan Kray No 120 Secondary School.

The plenum adopted a decision in accordance with the reviewed issue. With that, the plenum concluded its work. V.I. Polyakov, official of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the work of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum.

ESTONIAN CP PLENUM MEETS, CONCLUDES 6 MAR

PM231457 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 7 Mar 84 p 1

[ETA "Information Report on Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The 13th Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum was held in Tallinn 6 March.

It was attended by raykom first secretaries, gorispolkom and rayispolkom chairman, and republic ministry and department leaders who are not members of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee.

The plenum considered the question: "The Results of the Extraordinary February (1984) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Republic Party Organization's Tasks Arising Out of the Plenum Speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade K.U. Chernenko."

The report on this question was delivered by K. Vayno, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee.

Contributions were made to the debate by M. Pedak, first secretary of Tallinn Gorkom; M. Leosk, first secretary of Pylvaskiy Raykom; V. Vasilyev, excavator driver at the "Estonslanets" production association's "Viyvikonna" open pit; B. Tamm, rector of the Tallinn Polytechnical Institute; E. Kallas, chairman of the "Vambola" Kolkhoz in Vilyandiskiy Rayon, and A. Valgepea, leader of a team of painters at the Tallinn housing construction combine.

The plenum adopted a resolution on the republic party organization's tasks arising out of the results of the extraordinary February (1984) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the plenum speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade K.U. Chernenko.

The plenum listened to reports by A. Madik, member of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Board of the Estonian Republic Union of Consumer Societies, and V. Eks, candidate member of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and Estonian SSR minister of housing and municipal services, on participation in integrated political days and work with the working people's incoming inquiries, critical statements, and proposals.

R. Ristlaan, secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, also spoke on the matter.

The plenum adopted a decision on the reports. The plenum examined and took note of information presented by the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau on the results of admissions to the party and work on further strengthening party ranks in the republic party organization in 1983.

The Estonian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the gorkoms and raykoms were instructed to adopt the requisite measures to improve individual selection for the party, further strengthen party ranks, and improve the militancy of primary party organizations in the light of the tasks set in the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and February (1984) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

The plenum released B. Saul from the post of Estonian Communist Party Central Committee secretary in connection with his appointment as chairman of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers.

N. Ganyushov was elected secretary and member of the Bureau of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee.

At that point the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee plenum ended.

The plenum was attended and addressed by V. Lobusov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Letters Section.

WOMAN FOUND GUILTY OF BEATING MILITIAMAN

LD231819 Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Andrey Sergeyev reports:

The people court of Moscow's Lyublino district -- Chairman Yuriy Grinyukov, people's assessors Anna Yerokhina and Lidia Polyanskaya examined at an open court session the criminal case of Olga Medvedkova, 35, a resident of Moscow. In accordance with criminal legislation, she was accused of beating and insulting in public a militiaman when he was performing his duties. Member of the Moscow City College of Barristers David Akselbant was counsel for here defence. Relatives and fellow employees of the defendant were present in the court.

Witnesses for the prosecution and defence were heard during the court examination and evidence, submitted for examination of the court, was thoroughly studied. The defendant made her last plea.

The court ascertained that Medvedkova deliberately committed violent actions against the militiaman when he was performing his duties, and found her guilty of the crime incriminated to her. Taking into account that the defendant reaffirmed the objective aspect of the charge against her, that criminal proceedings were instituted against her for the first time and also that she has an under-age child, the court passed on her a suspended sentence with a trial period of two years and a half without imprisoning Medvedkova.

BRIEFS

KARA-KALPAK DICTIONARY -- The first volume of a comprehensive dictionary of the Kara-Kalpak language has been published in Nukus, the capital of Kara-Kalpak ASSR. The first volume contains over 6,000 words. The comprehensive dictionary is being prepared for publication by the republic's [word indistinct] scholars. Currently, three more volumes are ready to be published. As a whole, the dictionary contains 20,000 words and is regarded as an extraordinary scientific work in Kara-Kalpak language -- the first of its kind. The publication of the dictionary has been dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Uzbek SSR, which will be marked in October 1984. It is common knowledge that Kara-Kalpak ASSR is within the jurisdiction of the Uzbek SSR. [Text] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 19 Mar 84 CF]

TV ROUNDTABLE ON NUCLEAR POWER INDUSTRY

OW231021 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0930 GMT 13 Mar 84

["What the Collective Can Do" feature, program entitled "In Kurchatov's House," moderated by political observer V.P. Beketov -- recorded]

[Text] [Beketov] Hello, comrades. Today we have our third and final program in the series "What the Collective Can Do," devoted to people in the nuclear power industry.

In the two previous programs, we talked about the creators of power equipment, citing the example of the Kharkov "Turboatom" Association and the Novovoronezhskiy AES collective, one of the oldest in the country. Today's program is devoted to the future of the working atom and prospects for the nuclear power industry.

The matter is enormous and multifaceted. Even today, the nuclear power industry has extended in range from the Baltic to Chukotka and has attracted hundreds of thousands of people of the most varied vocations into its sphere of influence.

However, it has its own main address, its own main center. It is the I.V. Kurchatov Institute of Atomic Energy. It is precisely from here that what has already been done and the future of nuclear power engineering can most clearly be examined.

This is the house where Igor Vasilyevich lived and worked. It is called Kurchatov's house. Incidentally, that could be the title of the entire institute and to a great extent the whole of the country's nuclear power industry today, where the work and name of the great physicist lives on in new deeds and new achievements.

Let us take a look inside this house and listen to people united by common work and common interests. It is a precise interpretation of the word collective that is highlighted by the title of our program.

Taking part in our discussion are Anatoliy Petrovich Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and director of the I.V. Kurchatov Institute of Atomic Energy; Academician Valeriy Alekseyevich Legasov, deputy director of the institute; Yevgeniy Vladimirovich Kulov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Safety in the Atomic Power Industry; Gennadiy Aleksandrovich Shasharin, USSR first deputy minister of power and electrification; Valeriy Grigoryevich Pershin, USSR deputy minister of power machine building; and Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Fadeyev, deputy chief of a Gosplan department.

Anatoliy Petrovich, you visited this house during Igor Vasilyevich's lifetime. Please, a few words about what happened here during those years. With whom did the master of this house meet, what did he work on, what did he think and dream about, so to speak, by this fireplace?

[Aleksandrov] He did not sit by the fireplace. He did not have that opportunity. Those who visited him -- the majority of those who visited -- could not be called guests. It was mainly for intensive and businesslike work. It was Korolev, Keldysh, Zvenyagin, Slavskiy, Vannikov -- a great many people; many from our institute; and I was often here. Always, or almost always, those were businesslike meetings. Sometimes, if the time was right, they coincided with lunch. Strictly speaking, Igor Vasilyevich did not have an official end to the workday. It often happened he would call work at night to find out what was going on, and how, and where. His activity was always very intense.

In particular, it was precisely here, in this house, that the matter of creating the first nuclear power stations and the first small station built in Obninsk, which is still operating, were discussed. It is only a 5,000-kilowatt station. Then there was the construction of the first power-generating unit of the Voronezh station. Generally it was also conceived here.

[Beketov] Here, yes. The topic of our talk today is the future of the nuclear power industry. However, before talking about tomorrow, one must discuss the present to some extent. I would like to ask Gennadiy Aleksandrovich Shasharin, USSR first deputy minister of power and electrification, to deal with the state of affairs at nuclear power projects in the 11th 5-Year Plan period.

[Shasharin] The current situation is that at the beginning of this year AES capacities amounted to 20 million kilowatts. Is that a lot or little? In general it constitutes altogether 7 percent of the generally-established capacities. However, in 1984 its electric power output will amount to nearly 10 percent of the entire output of electric power. However, it would be more appropriate here to talk about the rates of development of AESes than the increase in capacities. For instance, let me say that by the end of 1975, in the Ninth 5-Year Plan period, the capacity of stations amounted to 5.5 million kilowatts. Now, as I have already said, it amounts to 20 million kilowatts. In other words, in 8 years, capacities have increased 3.5 or 3.6 times, while the output of electric power increased more than 4 times.

Now once again, is 20 million a lot or a little? It should be said that the 20 million kilowatts is distributed mainly in the European part of our country where the situation with fuel, simple organic fuel, is the most strained.

If we examine recent years, the flow of organic fuel into the European part from the country's Asian part has constantly increased, and it practically doubled in the 10th 5-Year Plan period. So 20 million kilowatts is already a considerable capacity of our power industry.

If we talk about the growth rate, which I have already mentioned, then during the remaining 2 years of this 5-year plan period we must commission something on the order of 10 million kilowatts of new power-generating capacity. Of course, this is a significant contribution both to the power industry in general, and particularly to the nuclear power industry.

[Beketov] Now more specifically about the future. It is now taking quite definite and concrete shape because the country's power industry program up to 2000 has been adopted. I would like to ask Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Fadeyev, deputy chief of a USSR Gosplan department, to say a few words about what our nuclear power industry will look like on the eve of the third millenium; what burdens will the atom shoulder in the year 2000.

[Fadeyev] I would put it this way: In accordance with the power industry program of the Soviet Union, the USSR Gosplan, together with the Ministry of Power Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, and other ministries is planning to build nearly 100 AESes and ASTs [nuclear heat supply stations] by the end of this century. We will reach a point when up to 40 percent of the electric power generated by all sources will, as you characterized it, be shouldered by the atom, and nearly 8 percent of the generated heat will also be accounted for by the peaceful atom.

If we think about the work we have carried out, say, during the past 20 years, and the work that must be carried out during the approximately 17 years that remain before the end of the century, then we can put it as follows: If we multiply by 8 what we have done, the path we have already traversed, then we must cover this new path in 17 instead of 20 years. At the same time the construction of so-called small nuclear stations is envisaged to generate electric power and heat in the country's far northern and northeastern regions.

The Bilibino AES is already operating in the country's northeast, generating electric power and heat that is about half as expensive as the prime production cost of electric power and heat generated in those same regions by diesel electric power stations.

Small nuclear installations -- about three types of such installations are now being developed -- will be used in various regions of the far north and northeast and may be both stationary or mobile models.

[Beketov] During our work on previous programs we were asked numerous questions and, in particular, questions were asked by young specialists at the Novovoronezhskiy station. I saved some of those questions for this meeting. What are these questions? What type of reactor will be preferred in the future? Are there plans to turn reactor control at nuclear stations over to computers? And finally, when will the Atommash plant reach the set projected equipment production level?

It seems that many problems both of a technical and scientific nature converge in these questions. I would like first to ask Valeriy Grigoryevich Pershin, deputy minister of power machine building, to answer them, especially because quite recently you were the director of Atommash.

[Pershin] If we talk about the foreseeable future, then of course precedence will be given to reactor equipment containing the greatest capacity in a single power-generating unit. Quite recently the million kilowatt unit [millionik] replaced -- not entirely yet, it is true, but it has already begun replacing -- the reactor vessel, or, say, the equipment assembly, of the VVER-440 [water-cooled, water-moderated power reactor-440] type.

Work by engineers and scientists is already underway to develop the design of an even more powerful reactor of the VVER type with a capacity of 1.5 megawatts. The same process is underway with pressure tube reactors. Until recently we built nuclear stations with unit capacity of RBMK [high-power pressure tube reactor] blocks of 1 million kilowatts, and at the end of last year we all witnessed the first commissioning of a 1.5 million kilowatt unit [polutoramillionik] at the Ignalina AES.

And of course the future belongs to fast breeder reactors. Preparations are already underway for production, particularly at Atommash, so that during the next 5-year plan period actual production can begin of even more powerful fast breeder reactors.

As far as shifting responsibility for the control of nuclear stations to computers is concerned, a policy has become quite clearly defined here that is pursued both by the Ministry of Power and Electrification as the manager of nuclear stations and as our client, and by those ministries that are cooperating with it in this regard. For instance, at the Kharkov turbines plant we have developed a system, an automatic control system for turbines, and control systems for other units [agregaty] have been developed, and a complex system of control of reactors -- that is of a nuclear installation as a whole -- is being worked out.

Now as far as the Atommash plant is concerned, this question is asked very often: When will Atommash begin operating at full capacity? I must say that basically we intend to complete construction of Atommash by the end of the 12th 5-Year Plan period. As you know, the capacity of Atommash is 8 million kilowatts of equipment for AESes. But it is not enough to talk about completing construction of Atommash, one must grasp what it means. Atommash is not the usual plant in which capital investments can be made, buildings constructed, pipelines laid, and the plant begins operations. In order to complete the construction of Atommash an entire social and economic complex must be built. At the same time the Atommash collective is working and reactor vessels are already being produced. Last year production of the first refueling [peregruzochnaya] machine, radiation shield equipment, and many many other things were mastered.

[Beketov] I would like to add to these questions another request by the same young Novovoronezhskiy specialists to say a little about the advantages and principles of the operation of ASTs.

[Aleksandrov] Up to 20 percent of the fuel we extract to defray the country's energy needs is expended to generate electric power, while nearly 30 percent is expended on heating and all kinds of heat supply, hot water and so on, which, as you can see, is even more than for obtaining electric power. For this we develop nuclear heat supply reactors. It is only the first step. Here we utilize what is at a very developed stage in our country -- central heat supply, district heating stations, and central heating of entire cities by boiler houses. We will replace the small boiler houses, which mainly consume fuel oil, with ASTs.

This is low-potential heat. Probably sometime in the 1990's we will build reactors for high-temperature heat supply. It will supply a whole series of branches of the chemical industry, say, for obtaining ammonia, a variety of plastics, and so on. It will be the second area where we utilize heat supply reactors, but higher temperature ones.

We must also work and are already working on reducing consumption of oil products utilized by mobile units, such as motor vehicles, aircraft, and tractors. For this we are developing methods to obtain artificial fuel again with the assistance of our nuclear stations, for instance obtaining hydrogen from water using power from AESes. We can utilize hydrogen as a fuel instead of natural gas, kerosene, gasoline and so on.

[Beketov] We were in Voronezh, and the city residents there are really counting on the station's commissioning very soon. The dismantling of numerous boiler houses is already planned. New rayons being built are already switching to supply lines that will bring nuclear heat to their homes. So, they show real confidence there and everything has been calculated and checked. Will Voronezh residents receive that heat soon?

[Aleksandrov] First you should ask him when he will supply the reactor.

[Pershin] What Anatoliy Petrovich means is that metal components under the program are already being produced, and the first to receive heat from nuclear power will be Gorkiy residents. An AST is being built in Gorkiy, in its environs. The first unit should be commissioned next year and full-speed manufacturing of equipment is underway at a number of enterprises, namely Atommash, the Izhorskiy plant, and the Podolsk machine-building plant. This year Gorkiy residents will receive the first reactor vessel. It is the pilot model. Documentation and so on will be worked out according to it, and equipment for Voronezh residents is already in production, but they will receive it a little later.

[Unidentified speaker] He is evading the question.

[Shasharin] A reply. We hope that we will be able to commission that unit in 1986, but indeed much depends on the machine builders. If they continue to delay supplying equipment, then it seems that it can only be done in 1987.

[Beketov] Comrades ask where else construction of such stations is planned besides Gorkiy and Voronezh?

[Shasharin] Generally, there are not many specific places for the construction of such stations. However, I can say that there will be an AST built soon in Arkhangelsk, Arkhangelsk Oblast, Bryansk, and a number of other oblast cities.

[Beketov] I think a lot more time must pass before words or epithets like atomic and nuclear stop frightening people. We all understand the reasons for such fear -- that apprehension is particularly exacerbated in areas where AESes operate and are being built.

I would like to take advantage of the presence of our meeting with the chairman of the USSR State Committee for Safety in the Atomic Power Industry and ask: What guarantees are there that construction and operation of nuclear stations are completely safe for man and nature?

[Kulov] Soviet medical scientists made an assessment of the health risk to service personnel and residents living near nuclear stations and near a similar capacity station using coal to produce heat. They showed that it was 36,000 times safer to live near a nuclear station than to a thermal station using coal.

This level of safety guarantees is ensured by a whole series of technical and organizational measures. A reliable and strict system of supervision of safety rules and norms has been created and operates in our country. But taking into account -- as Gennadiy Aleksandrovich said -- the fact that the rates of development of the nuclear power industry are expanding and increasing, use of electric power generation in producing thermal energy with the help of the atom is expanding, and a great many people and organizations are being involved in producing equipment, building, designing, and operations, our government considered it timely and expedient to create nondepartmental organ that would monitor the safety of operation in the nuclear power industry. Such a committee was formed in July last year. The committee's tasks include control and supervision of safety rules and norms at all stages of establishing the nuclear power industry.

[Aleksandrov] Valeriy Alekseyevich Legasov can probably provide good comments on these things because our laboratory that studies safety, or more precisely, ecological matters, is under his direction.

[Legasov] Indeed, all the specialists working in this direction understand very well that all types of equipment, especially new equipment, present some sort of potential danger to the people connected with that equipment. The thing is to compare what kind of production say, of power, is the safest, both from the point of view of man and the effect on the environment, bearing in mind the effect on the land and living things around projects under construction.

All the world's specialists who have analyzed the problem conclude that nuclear energy -- by virtue of the concentration of energy in the material that we use -- in such terms, causes the least damage to nature and the least damage to man, although there are a number of unresolved problems in the nuclear power industry itself, which must be solved by researchers and creators of the nuclear equipment.

Well I could give an example that is sometimes disregarded. You know, for instance, that any unpleasant accident in a coal shaft usually results in the death of people. We occasionally read about it in the newspapers, unfortunately. But, for instance, there was a major technical accident, and a very unpleasant one, in the United States a few years ago at a nuclear power station in the State of Pennsylvania. It was a major technical accident. Now not only was there no need to talk of deaths there, there was no need to even talk about any detriment to the health of even one person working at that station.

Therefore nuclear power engineering, with the entire system of reliable hermetic sealing of radioactive fragments in the heat-generating element...

[Aleksandrov, interrupting] I think it was the most tragic, as they say, event in nuclear power engineering in recent years.

[Unidentified speaker] But there were no victims.

[Beketov] It is often cited as proof by that side.

[Legasov] Well, I can only speak about what permits all specialists nowadays to say that safe operation in the nuclear power industry can be ensured. It is not a result of its inherent properties, but rather of extensive work that was done during its creation, because all heat-generating elements are very well sealed and no leaks of radioactive fragments from those elements is permitted. Strict control over every heat-generating element placed into or extracted from a nuclear reactor is maintained. Therefore control, technical decisions, the very sensitive instrumentation that was created to monitor the entire process, the qualifications of people on whom special demands are made -- this entire complex of measures permits us to say today that nuclear power engineering can be employed safely.

If other branches of the national economy, such as the coal industry, the chemical industries and the cement industry adopted methods taken by the nuclear power industry, the safety of our national economy would be much greater overall. So presently there is a lot the nuclear power industry can teach other branches of the national economy from the point of view of safe operations.

[Aleksandrov] Yes, yes.

[Beketov] Anatoliy Petrovich, what did your voters have to say to you?

[Aleksandrov] Well, all kinds of rumors reach them, therefore they asked whether or not it is dangerous near our Atomic Energy Institute. But the simplest thing I could tell them was that my entire family and numerous children and grandchildren all live here too. And the families of all the staff also live near the institute -- we all do.

[Beketov] Valeriy Alekseyevich, I read in a reference book -- the Soviet Encyclopedic Dictionary, which was recently published -- where you are represented as an inorganic chemist, as an author of works on plasma chemistry and the chemistry of rare gases. At the same time you are the deputy director of the Atomic Energy Institute.

Apparently this example confirms that not only physicists and people with specialized occupations are engaged in the development of nuclear power engineering, but representatives of related sciences and of all our Soviet science are as well.

[Legasov] Well, I think you have both asked and answered the question. I think it could be seen from our discussion today in which the participants enumerated so many problems related to the development of the nuclear power industry that naturally the solution to these problems requires specialists of the most varied orientations.

Recently Anatoliy Petrovich, literally last week, held a scientific and technical council at our institute at which we looked at the situation with young specialists for our institute, where the specialists come from, what are their qualities, and compared what we needed with what we are getting.

It turned out that more than 20 institutes in Moscow alone send specialists to us. That is, 20 institutes as well as various faculties, different specialties, and each one of them fits into place. Now our institute is a microcosm of the development of the entire nuclear industry. In the nuclear industry, too, the number of specialists is extremely great.

Besides I would like to add, and I think it is very important for everybody who is listening to our discussion today to know this, that when we talk about nuclear power engineering, the nuclear stations are just the tip of the iceberg known as the nuclear power industry, while below water is an enormous and extensive system that we call the nuclear fuel cycle. In this system we have enterprises that must mine uranium, concentrate it, transform it into the necessary chemical forms, carry out isotope separation, produce fuel, process the fuel in some manner after it has been in the reactor -- a whole complex of such functions that ensure the viability of the nuclear power industry and of the nuclear station itself. That complex is interesting and difficult, and has its scientific, engineering, construction, and many other tasks.

Obviously, in order to satisfy that complex, specialists of the most varied professions are needed. Now nuclear power engineering will be of value to the national economy when the entire complex is built in an optimal way.

We have only taken the first step in the nuclear power industry. We have simply demonstrated that energy from uranium can be used, say, to produce electric power. Actually nuclear power engineering can be used to obtain electric power and heat, it can turn out those elements that are increasingly being depleted from the ground. For example nuclear power engineering is already beginning to stockpile plutonium from uranium for its own needs. Uranium-238 is found in the ground, while plutonium is not, yet plutonium would be valuable as a material for the nuclear power industry. So the nuclear reactor produces electric power and turns out plutonium for itself.

It can produce more than just plutonium. It can produce technetium for metallurgy, it can produce xenon, which I noted earlier would be cheaper than extracting xenon from the air, and the further we go the more interesting the elements that nuclear power engineering can produce while at the same time generating electric power. Hence at this level the trend we are discussing has a brilliant future, we imagine, and nuclear power engineering is capable of utilizing any profession.

[Beketov] I think that familiarization with the state of affairs in the nuclear power industry brings to mind not only the interaction of sciences, but the community and the need for that community of countries as well, particularly the socialist countries that are members of CEMA.

[Fadeyev] Community with the CEMA member countries and the SFRY is developing dynamically. In 1979 the heads of government of eight socialist countries signed a long-term multifaceted agreement. The agreement envisages mutual deliveries of special kinds of equipment for AESes being built with the technical assistance of the Soviet Union.

[Shasharin] It should be said that all stations were built according to our technical designs, the equipment conforms to our technical designs and with most of our equipment our specialists rendered technical assistance both during station construction and during startup adjustment work and operations.

Now the fairly successful, I would say even most successful cooperation in producing equipment is also evident in station operation. In other words there is an exchange of information among all stations, mutual visits and exchanges of work experience between our electric power stations and the electric power stations in the CEMA member countries.

Besides, two of our 440 megawatt power units are operating in Finland in accordance with our joint project with the Finns. All CEMA member countries that have AESes have agreements with us in accordance with which we train their specialists. At first they are trained with simulators and then at an operating unit.

[Beketov] How do you assess scientific cooperation with both our colleagues from the socialist countries and those of the capitalist countries?

[Aleksandrov] Well, you see scientists are always -- I think this concerns not only our scientists but the majority of scientists in foreign countries as well -- interested in cooperation, because an exchange of thoughts, an exchange of various ideas, an exchange of opportunities and various experiments and so forth, always has a positive significance for the development of science as a whole. Of course, there are always such aspirations and that is always in fact useful to people all over the world.

But recently, as you well know, the situation is deteriorating. That is, some of that cooperation has been completely lost and part is developing at a much feebler rate than previously. Some cooperation exists, and of course what we have is beneficial. I think that after a period of time that aspects will nevertheless again begin to play a more important role, because generally all countries suffer from a break in such scientific intercourse. As soon as the drive to obtain military superiority and the arms race end, normal scientific relations will resume immediately. All mankind is interested in that. That can definitely be said.

[Beketov] Many writers, especially science fiction writers and scientists sometimes predict a sad fate for mankind in connection with the development of nuclear power. You know, the works in which the world is threatened with disasters. How do our Soviet scientists view that matter?

[Aleksandrov] Well, I can definitely say that all our scientists consider that there is no alternative to peaceful development. There must be peaceful development and there must be cooperation among countries with different economic and political systems. Only in that way can mankind continue to develop. If nuclear war arises, strictly speaking we do not anticipate mankind will survive.

[Beketov] Finally, I would like to address this question to you, Anatoliy Petrovich, as director of the Institute of Atomic Energy and as president of the country's Academy of Sciences: Up to now we have discussed the development of nuclear energy basically in an applied and practical sense. However, science does not end with the solution of practical problems. It looks farther and creates a base and a foundation for future principled decisions in all areas of our life. What, in your opinion, are the future paths, in what basic directions will the nuclear power industry develop in the future?

[Aleksandrov] The fact is that there is not that much fossil fuel on our planet -- it is sometimes called organic fuel -- least of all, oil. Here one can see dramatically the beginning of the depletion of its rich deposits, one can see that it is advantageous to utilize it as a chemical raw material and to a far lesser extent for direct consumption. Even Mendeleyev was concerned about that. He said that to burn oil is the same as burning paper money.

[Beketov] Yes, paper money.

[Aleksandrov] Yes. The first task is to replace oil in the modern power industry, moreover not only in areas of power production, but in all areas of consumption where oil is a fuel and not a raw material. This is the broad task.

The next resource is natural gas. Our country's gas situation is good, and we need not worry about replacing it in the area of power resources for quite a long time.

Finally, there is coal. We could satisfy our country's needs -- taking into account our coal deposits -- for many hundreds of years. We can probably say, without any risk and even with a little in reserve, for 200 or 300 years.

[Beketov] Naturally, this is taking into account eastern reserves.

[Aleksandrov] Of course, of course. I am talking about the entire country. Therefore, nuclear power makes sense if, first, it can, in the final analysis, further support all the enormous resources -- oil, coal and gas -- when they are exhausted, and support our country's power supply.

Then, in utilizing nuclear power, together with conventional resources, we must try to transfer the majority of power consumption areas to nuclear power. There is one requirement of nuclear power: Its fuel cycle must be constructed to utilize certain physical properties of nuclear fuel, specifically the possibility of its breeding, that is the possibility of obtaining a larger quantity of nuclear fuel than was loaded into the reactor as a result of its operation. This can then create a situation where the resources that exist say, in our country or in the world generally, can be utilized for a very long time. We could be talking about millenia, you understand. Therefore a matter such as the correlation between fast breeder reactors that operate precisely for fuel breeding, and thermal reactors, which we are now building, is strictly defined by this breeder mechanism. We must save as much natural uranium as possible and build efficient reactors. Second, we must ensure breeding in such a way that we will literally have infinity to utilize nuclear power. Third, we must make sure that we form these cycles in the most rational way possible so we do not have any great leaps in development -- you know, when something is under construction and suddenly, crash, and it cannot be used further.

Therefore, it is sometimes expedient to involve [pauses]... This fuel cycle must be constantly optimized depending on the stage of nuclear power industry development we are in. This is the trend of work in the nuclear power industry. That is why, strictly speaking, it is attractive, because no time limits for its utilization are apparent.

[Beketov] With this, allow us to end our talk. Thank you, respected comrades, for participating in the talk, and thank you comrade television viewers for your constant attention to our programs. All the best. Good-bye.

RESTORATION OF GAS AFTER EARTHQUAKE DESCRIBED

LD231329 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Tashkent March 23 TASS -- The Gazli gas field which was put out of action after the recent earthquake resumed gas extraction today. The first several million cubic metres of gas have been fed to the trunk gas pipelines connecting Bukhara and the Urals, as well as Bukhara, Tashkent, Chimkent, Jambul, Frunze and Alma-Ata. The gas was also delivered to the Fergana valley and the Osh district of Kirghizia.

It took three days to restore the gas field. The tremour of magnitude nine broke electric power lines and seriously damaged four compressor stations feeding gas to the pipelines. The Gazli gas workers restored electricity supply by themselves 5-6 hours after the earthquake, while the state of turbines required thorough inspection and extensive repair. By the mid-day of March 20 the best assembly specialists arrived here by plane from Moscow, Bryansk, Krasnodar and Urgench. The internationalist team of Bulgarian construction workers helped restore the turbine compressor shop which had been seriously damaged by the earthquake.

As soon as the news about the natural calamity reached Moscow, the central control office of the single gas-supplying system of the USSR sent the following message to Tashkent: The Urals will receive gas from Urengoy, and for this purpose a number of compressor stations will operate in the intensive regime. The intake of gas at the Central Asia-Centre gas pipeline will be reduced. Thus, the fuel from Turkmen gas fields will be released for you.

It was still the small hours of the day when engineers from Urgench, Gazli and Tashkent found a method to transport gas by the Bukhara-Urals pipeline in the reverse direction -- from the north to the south.

These minutes urgent telephone calls are made to all the areas of Uzbekistan and to neighbouring republics. The normal supply of enterprises which temporarily used alternative fuel was resumed. Hundreds of industrial enterprises and farms, tens of millions of flats of that vast region received during those days fuel, chemical raw materials and heat in the necessary amount without any interruption.

BRIEFS

AZERBAIJAN OIL WELLS -- The collective of Apsheronskiy Poluostrov drilling administration in Azerbaijan must drill a total of 80,968 meters in various parts of the peninsula during the current year. By successfully utilizing new technology and drilling methods, the workers have drilled a number of gas pits totalling 12,877 meters in depth since the beginning of the year. This is more than expected. The collective plans to realize the annual plan by 28 December. It has also pledged to drill 600 meters more than the required amount and put into operation an additional oil well. [Text] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0205 GMT 18 Mar 84 GF]

AZERBAIJAN CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS -- The workers of the Sumgait superphosphate factory have fully prepared themselves for meeting the needs in fertilizing agricultural land in the summer. Since the beginning of the year, they have produced over 10,000 tons of fertilizers in addition to the plan. Every preparation has been made to dispatch fertilizers to rayons in the Transcaucasus and the northern sector of the Caucasus on schedule. The Sumgait superphosphate factory will produce 1 million tons of granular fertilizers. [Summary] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0205 GMT 18 Mar 84 GF]

AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT SHORTCOMINGS NOTED

LD241648 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0200 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] A meeting of the all-union operational headquarters for material and technical supplies to agriculture has been held at the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply. "Mayak" commentator Semen Astakhov, who is a member of the headquarters staff, is at our microphone:

[Astakhov] Spring sowing has begun in the south of the country. For quite understandable reasons the headquarters staff paid special attention to this most important campaign. It was noted that 98 percent of seed drills and cultivators and 90 percent of tractors have been overhauled in time for spring. The level of readiness of equipment is somewhat higher than a year ago, but a lot of machinery still needs to be repaired. The headquarters staff were particularly worried about shortcomings in the repair of K-700 tractors. In the country as a whole the level of their readiness is higher than last year. But almost 30,000 Kirovets tractors still have to be repaired. The situation regarding these machines is unsatisfactory in Novosibirsk, Uralsk and some other oblasts of the RSFSR and Kazakhstan. The same applies to many seed drills. I mentioned that most of them have been repaired in the country as a whole. But many sowing machines are still awaiting repair in Tajikistan and Turkmenia, where work has already started. The repair of trucks in Moldavia, Kirghizia and Georgia is not well organized.

The sowing has only started, but hay-making is not beyond the horizon. In Armenia, Kazakhstan and Latvia the preparation of forage-harvesting equipment is proceeding only slowly. Individual oblasts like Ryazan, Omsk, Kurgan, Aktyubinsk and Taldy-Kurgan Oblasts are quite behind in the overhaul of grain-harvesting combines. The headquarters meeting analyzed the reasons for the shortcomings in the repair of equipment. The main reason is the inefficient organization of work on individual farms and in the associations of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment to Agriculture.

Partners sometimes let the farmers down. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses receive equipment and other material and technical supplies from almost 3,000 plants and factories. Some of these -- such as the Chelyabinsk tractor works, the Yaroslavl Avtodizel works, the Kutaisi vehicle-building plant and the Kharkov tractor engines works -- have undersupplied many acutely scarce components since the beginning of the year. Railwaymen are to blame for the accumulation of a considerable number of finished machines at the Minsk tractor works, the Gorkiy and Kama motor vehicle plants, and the Tula combine works. The headquarters meeting adopted practical measures on all these questions.

AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL VIEWS SPRING PREPARATIONS

LD251338 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Summary] This spring the sowing of crops is to be carried out on more than 150 million hectares. Naturally, the sowing campaign requires a high level of organization and teamwork from the growers. Our correspondent was told by Yuriy Alekseyevich Nikitin, deputy head of the main grain crops directorate of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, about the state of affairs at the start of the struggle for the 1984 harvest.

[Begin Nikitin recording] To date the growers of the Kuban area have completed the sowing of early cereal crops on 200,000 hectares, and sowing is in full swing in the Crimea. The farms of the Kalmyk and North Osetian ASSR's and Kherson, Astrakhan, Rostov, and other oblasts have set about spring fieldwork.

The majority of farms are well prepared for their busy period. By the start of March, 89 percent of tractors; 97 percent of plows, seed-drills, and cultivators; and 96 percent of potato-planters had been overhauled. Sowing equipment was overhauled a month ahead of schedule in Azerbaijan, and this work has nearly been completed by the machine-operators of Kirghizia and Voronezh Oblast. But the farms of Pskov, Tula, Turgay, and Dzherzkazgan Oblasts have still not overhauled 15-24 percent of their tractors and much other equipment.

The priority tasks of the growers include the top dressing of winter crops with mineral fertilizer. At present, thousands of agricultural aircraft are being used over the fields of the Ukraine, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, and the North Caucasus. This year, a considerably larger area has to be top-dressed by aircraft than last year.

The farms have done a great amount of work in preparing the seed stocks and improving the quality of seeds. The machine-operators, for instance, of the Ukraine, Belorussian, Belgorod, Bryansk, and Penza Oblasts are primarily using only first-class grain and pulse crop seeds in their spring sowing. But this is by no means the state of affairs everywhere. Many farms in the Armenian, Georgian, Turkmen, and Tajik union republics are behind with their processing of seeds.

The team subcontract method is to play the main role in labor organization in agriculture. The country's growers have amassed a great deal of experience in this respect. This has shown that links or teams operating on the subcontract system achieve a high return from invested funds, and in the same conditions obtain as a rule 20-30 percent more produce per unit area than others. [end recording]

COSMONAUTS CONDUCT MEDICAL, SERVICING TASKS

LD232216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1255 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (TASS) -- Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev, and Oleg Atkov have been on duty in near-earth orbit for 1 and 1/2 months. Over the past week the cosmonauts have carried out a large volume of medical research and visual observations of the earth's land areas and of the world's oceans, and have done a number of regular servicing tasks on the station. The crew was also allocated time for rest and for checking the system.

An important condition for the successful implementation of a lengthy space flight is ensuring the cosmonauts' complex of measures are carried out, including regular medical checks on the crew, checks on the health and hygiene of the living environment, and doing physical exercises.

On 19 March, a routine medical day on board the orbital complex, research was carried out on the cardiovascular system and the psychophysical state of the cosmonauts. An experiment was carried out to evaluate the dynamics of the changes in the composition of the gaseous environment in the living compartments of the complex.

A biochemical experiment to study the nature of carbohydrate metabolism was carried out this morning using a "glucometer." A large proportion of the working time in the second half of day was allocated to technological experiments on the "evaporator" installation. The essence of this is to use the method of electronbeam evaporation and subsequent condensation to apply metallic coatings in conditions of space vacuum and weightlessness. An alloy of copper and silver is used as the coating material.

According to the results of the telemetric measurements and crew reports, the flight of the Salyut-7 - Soyuz-T-10 - Progress-19 scientific research complex is proceeding normally. Cosmonauts Kizim, Solovyev, and Atkov are healthy and feel well.

SOVIET, INDIAN COSMONAUTS ARRIVE AT BAYKONUR

LD232022 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 23 Mar 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Summary] The Soviet and Indian space crews arrived at Baykonur today from Zvezdnyy Gorodok for final training. [video shows airfield with crewmen standing on aircraft steps] The crew making the orbital flight will return to the airfield at Zvezdnyy Gorodok after covering almost 7 million kilometers. After their arrival at the Baykonur cosmodrome, the crew will take possession of their spacecraft and sign a document saying they have received it in good condition, after checking it over. Only days now remain to the launch.

HYDROGRAPHIC SHIP CONCLUDES RESEARCH CRUISE

BK230807 Hong Kong AFP in English 0734 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Singapore, March 23 (AFP) -- A Russian hydrographic ship, described as the world's most modern, has steamed into Singapore after more than three months of intensive research in the Indian Ocean. Aleksandr P. Lisitzin, head of the Department of Physico-Geological Research at the USSR Academy of Sciences, told newsmen on board the vessel Akademik Mstislav Keldysh last night that their mission of studying the geology and geophysics of the Indian Ocean had been highly rewarding.

The 5,000-tonne ship, built in Finland three years ago, is equipped with highly sophisticated equipment including two Canadian-made submersibles (diving capsules) which can remain 2,000 metres (6,500 feet) under water for up to 70 hours with three crewmen each on board. Other equipment on board the ship, which cost 30 million rubles (about \$30,000 U.S.) to build, include two large and six mini-computers and 17 research laboratories.

Prof Lisitzin is assisted by a group of 65 scientists, among whom 30 are women. The main area of investigation during the current trip, which began on December 8, were the Gulf of Aden and Broken Ridge area off western Australia. The ship leaves here tomorrow or Sunday for Vladivostock.

SOVIET ARMY'S 'LIBERATING ROLE' EXPLAINED

PM231146 Moscow TRUD in Russian 20 Mar 84 p 3

[Interview with Colonel V.P. Morozov by editorial board under the "Retrospective View" rubric: "The Peoples Remember!"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] Colonel V.P. Morozov, USSR State Prize winner and military historian, answers questions put by the editorial board on the Soviet Armed Forces' liberating mission and on contemporary falsifiers of history.

Question: What is meant by the Soviet Armed Forces' liberating mission in World War II?

Answer: First of all, let us note that this is the kind of topical ideological question where history, the present, and the future are closely interwoven. Throughout the postwar decades it has been a prime target for the falsification of the history of World War II in bourgeois propaganda.

The expression "the Soviet Army's liberating mission" means the military help given to the peoples of foreign countries in their struggle against invaders. It is an expression of the policy of the CPSU and Soviet Government which is aimed at supporting the liberation struggle of other peoples with due recognition of their inalienable right independently to resolve questions of the ordering of their internal life.

The Soviet Union's aims with regard to the European countries being liberated from the fascist invaders were set out in well-known wartime documents. They proclaimed the need to liberate the peoples of Europe from Hitler's invaders and to help them reconstruct their independent national states; to accord them total freedom in resolving the question of their own state structure and social system; to establish a system in Europe which would totally exclude the possibility of new aggression on the part of Germany; to establish close and all-around cooperation among the peoples and restore their economies and culture.

From the very first days of the building of the new life the Soviet Union became for the liberated countries of central Europe, southeast Europe, and Asia a powerful bulwark without which the working people of those countries would not have been able to maintain power in the face of external pressure. The Soviet forces' presence in a number of liberated countries in the early postwar years prevented the imperialist exportation of counterrevolution, shackled the reactionary forces in those countries, and ensured the peoples' right to self-determination.

It needs to be emphasized that the Soviet Armed Forces' liberation of a number of countries in Europe and Asia and the Soviet forces' presence on their territory for a certain time merely created favorable opportunities for democratic development. The national democratic and socialist revolutions in those countries were prepared by their own internal development and were not brought in on the "bayonets of Soviet troops," as Western bourgeois historiography and propaganda try to prove.

In examining the question of the preconditions for revolution in the liberated countries one must always adhere to the historical truth. And the truth is that two elements, two factors -- the internal (and decisive) one, and the external one -- must be combined. The Soviet Army's victorious liberation offensive was the factor which created the external preconditions for the realization of each people's right to choose independently the path of their own development.

Question: You spoke of bourgeois falsifiers of history. How does that relate to the problem under examination?

Answer: The calumniator is sophisticated and multifaceted. He goes to enormous pains to discredit the Soviet Union, distort the aims of Soviet foreign policy during the war and in the postwar period, and instill distrust of the USSR's present peace-loving initiatives.

The empty claim that the implanting of a "Soviet regime" in the liberated countries of Europe and Asia was the main aim of the Soviet Union's policy is a specific direction of the falsification of history. One American author, a certain (E. Guver), for example, in his book "Investigating Communism" [Issledovaniye Kommunizma], lamenting the Soviet Army's victory at the battle of Stalingrad, writes that it "signified not only a turning point in the fate of the Soviets but the beginning of a communist offensive in the course of which seven European countries lost their freedom..." Writing in the journal MILITARY REVIEW, another American author, (Kleb), tries to argue that "Soviet territorial expansion" allegedly began immediately following World War II. These and similar calumniators ought to take a look at the opinion voiced on this matter by the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, which wrote in June 1945: "The Red Army has in fact turned out to be the army which has liberated Europe and half of the world, in the sense that, without this army and the infinite sacrifices of the Russian people, liberation from the brutal yoke of Nazism would have been simply impossible." There you have it!

The falsifiers' thesis that the Soviet Union in some way violated international law is untenable. In dispatching its Armed Forces to liberate the countries of Europe, the Soviet Government was invariably guided by the treaties and agreements existing at that time. It acted strictly in accordance with the standards of international law. Soviet troops entered Polish territory, for example, in line with the agreement reached with the Krajowa Rada Narodowa in the summer of 1944. They entered Czechoslovak territory in accordance with the treaty concluded between the USSR and Czechoslovakia back in December 1943. The agreement for Soviet troops to enter Norway was concluded with that country's government 16 May 1944. In keeping with that agreement, Soviet troops crossed the state frontier with Norway 18 October 1944 so as to rid its people of the Nazi yoke in the quickest possible time. The question of the Soviet Army switching its military operations onto Yugoslav territory was also agreed to with the Supreme High Command of its people's Liberation Army.

Thus, let us stress once again: The Soviet Armed Forces were sent to particular countries on their liberation mission not contrary to but in accordance with the will of their peoples and governments.

As for the switching of combat operations onto the territory of Romania, Bulgaria, and Austria, this was done in full accordance with the "Convention on the Laws and Customs of Land War" adopted at the second Hague conference. Soviet servicemen entered their territory during the fighting to crush the enemy troops, thus objectively carrying out a mission of liberation with regard to those countries' working people. The Soviet Government statement of 2 April 1944 in connection with the Soviet Army's entry onto Romanian territory, for example, reads as follows: "The Soviet Government states that it is not pursuing the aim of acquiring any part of Romanian territory or of changing the existing social system in Romania and that the Soviet troops' entry into Romania is dictated solely by military necessity and the continuing resistance on the part of enemy troops." Similar statements, as is well known, were also made on the entry of Soviet troops onto the territory of other states.

The falsifiers' slanderous fabrications to the effect that revolution in the countries of Europe was brought in on the Soviet Army's bayonets founders as soon as the question is posed thus: Why did a revolution not take place in a number of countries (Austria, Iran, and others) on whose territory Soviet troops were present for quite some time? The nub of the answer is clear: The internal preconditions did not exist in those countries. The fact that the troops of the imperialist powers, which not only impeded any democratic transformations but actively supported the reactionary monopolist forces, were also present on part of the territory of some countries (Germany, Austria, Korea, Norway), was also of considerable significance.

As for Finland, it was able to withdraw from the war long before fascist Germany was completely crushed thanks to the efforts of the Soviet Union and its peace-loving foreign policy. In countries such as the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Albania, and Cuba there were no Soviet troops at all, while in China and Yugoslavia they operated on a limited area. Nevertheless, there existed there those internal forces which, by making skillful use of the favorable international situation, were able to accomplish a revolutionary coup.

The Soviet liberator-soldier! The grateful people of many countries have erected monuments and memorials for him. For it was he who brought peace to the peoples!

BOOK ON ARMY-NAVY COLLABORATION REVIEWED

PM261939 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 84 Second Edition p 2

[Rear Admiral Professor G. Kostev "Notes on Books": "On Army-Navy Collaboration"]

[Text] Collaboration is one of the most important principles of military art. It is long established in the practice of armed warfare. According to the established view in Soviet military science it envisages actions, coordinated in terms of tasks, location, timing, and means, by different military formations in the most advantageous combination for attaining the common objective in battles, engagements, operations, campaigns, and war as a whole. Collaboration is strategic, operational, or tactical depending on the scale of the military encounter.

Now that nuclear missile weaponry and other very up-to-date means of armed warfare have emerged as a result of the revolution in military matters, the importance of collaboration between branches of the Armed Forces and categories of troops is growing to an even greater extent. Moreover, it is closely united with its other principles (surprise, the massing of forces, the concentration of effort on the main salient, and so forth) and makes it possible to increase overall combat might because the weak points of one category or branch of the forces are compensated by the advantages of another.

That is why the reader will greet with interest L. Olshtynski's book "Army-Navy Collaboration," published by the Military Publishing House (footnote) (L. Olshtynskiy. Army-Navy Collaboration. [Vzaimodeystviye Armii i Flota] Military Publishing House. 1983, 320 pp., price R1.40). It examines Army-Navy collaboration in joint offensive operations in different theaters of military operations in World War II. Special attention is devoted to Soviet Armed Forces operations on the coastal salients of the Soviet-German front.

We learn from the book that Soviet troops' transition to a resolute offensive on the coastal salients began in the fall of 1943 with the conducting of an operation to wipe out the enemy's bridgehead at Taman and with the subsequent landing of our assault troops in the Crimea on Kerch Peninsula. Then in January 1944 a strike was carried out near Leningrad and the bridgehead on the shore of the Gulf of Finland was wiped out, and in April-May of the same year Soviet troops liberated the Crimea.

The elimination of the enemy bridgeheads on the shores of the Baltic and the Black Sea promoted the success of the Soviet Army's further offensive of Summer-Fall 1944 along the entire Soviet-German front. In the course of the October 1944 Petsamo-Kirkenes operation, the coastal fascist German grouping in the north was routed and Pechanga Oblast and part of north Norway were liberated.

All these strategic operations, the book notes, have common characteristics. Each of them was conducted by the joint efforts of one front and the main forces of a particular fleet under the leadership of Supreme High Command Headquarters and its working organ -- the general staff. All these operations showed the Soviet Command's supreme skill in organizing and implementing strategic, operational, and tactical Army-Navy collaboration. Furthermore, the landings of marines, and the artillery and air support given to the ground forces by the Navy were an indispensable integral part of the operations being examined.

Assault operations reached their largest scale in the Kerch-Eltigen operation. The means of shipborne artillery support and covering the ground forces' flanks from the sea were further improved. Action on lines of communication continued to play an important role. By securing sea transportation it was possible to reduce the time taken on troops transfers by sea and organize maritime communications with liberated ports.

As the book stresses, the Great Patriotic War showed quite convincingly that the content and nature of collaboration, the precision of its organization, the efficiency of its implementation, and the level of centralization in the leadership of joint Army-Navy actions in strategic operations were a vivid manifestation of the progressive nature of Soviet military art based on Marxist-Leninist methodology and of its superiority over bourgeois military art.

In connection with the postwar revolution in military matters caused by the rapid progress in science and technology, the trend for the role of closer collaboration between Army, Air Force, and Navy to grow and for its scale and organization to expand, has become increasingly strong. Modern concepts of nonnuclear war envisage the coordination of the achievement of strategic results by conventional means with a readiness to repel a nuclear attack. Herein is the source of the author's most important conclusion that all these factors pose questions of collaboration in a number of the fundamental problems of modern military art. Therefore, the experience of the last war not only retains its importance, but is widely used by the Soviet Armed Forces, is one of the main components in high combat readiness, and also plays an important role in developing Soviet military science.

The book devotes attention to the fact that the U.S. military and its NATO bloc partners attach special importance to joint Army-Navy operations in the implementation of their aggressive plans. This explains the extensive scale of the building of naval forces in the United States and the other major capitalist countries. In accordance with its "naval strategy" the Pentagon is transferring the greater part of its strategic resources targeted on the territory of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries to various regions of the world oceans.

Mindful of all this, the monograph's author concludes, the Armed Forces of the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries are persistently increasing their readiness to repel the aggressors' attacks, including those on maritime salients, and to carry out crushing retaliatory strikes with the close collaboration of all branches and categories of troops.

Like any book, needless to say, it contains certain omissions. One of these is the absence from its pages of an at-a-glance reference section both for the problem of collaboration as a whole and for each operation. It is obviously necessary also to differentiate the terms "collaboration" [vzaimodeystviye] and "joint operations" [sovmestniye deystviya] more precisely. And one more wish. I think that postwar experience could provide important supplementary material for a problem like collaboration. After all, in the almost 40 years since World War II we have held a number of exercises and maneuvers in which the Army, Air Force, and Navy collaborated. Unfortunately, these questions are missing from the book under review.

But despite these remarks, the book is of definite interest to readers, especially servicemen.

READERS REPLY TO SOLDIER'S LETTER FROM DRA

PM261025 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 84 p 2

[Unattributed roundup of reader's letters under the rubric "Reader to Reader": "Letters to Viktor Yankin" -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] On 10 February our newspaper published a "Letter Home" by V. Yankin, a sergeant in the Soviet Army.

The item generated a great response among KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA readers. The editorial office received over 2,600 letters. They are written by veterans, workers, students, schoolchildren, and entire collectives from virtually all the union republics. All the letters unanimously support the position of the author of "Letter Home." We are publishing some of them today. All the letters will be forwarded to Viktor Yankin and his fellow soldiers.

"You -- the soldiers of the Soviet Army -- provide us with the good fortune of being able to live and work in peace by defending our peace, sometimes at the risk of your own lives. That is why I want to express my gratitude for your difficult military labor.

"Valentina Tsinyuk, a Komsomol member, Kovel."

"I fought my first battle at Ternopol on 3 July 1941 and finished the war at Prague on 15 May 1945. I was wounded six times during the war but I survived and triumphed. You are right, Viktor, when you say that the defense of the motherland is your duty now. Stand up for your fatherland as firmly as your fathers did and know that our thoughts are always with you. After all, our Army is the people's Army. "N. Rykov, war and labor veteran, Chelyabinsk."

"I very much support Viktor Yankin's idea that love for the motherland unites people and makes them nobler and more honorable. "Natashe Illarionova, 10th grade schoolgirl. Novocheboksarsk."

"I am a kindergarten teacher and I love little children very much. How good it is that there are young men like those serving in Afghanistan. It is they, after all, who are standing guard over peace! Thank you! "Irina Tikhomirova, Guryev."

"I am the mother of one of you, my son is serving in the Army. But now I also regard Sasha, my son's friend, who saved his life, as a son. It could have been someone else instead of Sasha, but he rushed to the rescue first and now my son is still alive. All mothers know that our sons -- the reliable defenders of our motherland and home -- will be the state's firm bulwark. After all, most of you are workers or peasants, future breadwinners, which means that you are the country's most important people. "A mother's regards. "L. Butusova, Moscow."

"My brother Stanislav is also serving in the Army at present. He writes home about his service and how many real friends he has found. These young soldiers are united by a strong friendship, loyalty to the motherland, and heroism. I am proud of my brother and want to be like him. "B. Dadyk, Novosady village in Brest Oblast."

"Hello, Viktor! This is Fatima Turtbayeva writing to you from Kazakhstan. Like you, many of my friends are now serving in the ranks of the Armed Forces. You young men of my generation are having to perform your duty as a man and a soldier in difficult times. But I believe that you, the young men of the eighties, will do everything to defend peace on earth. "F. Turtbayeva, Chimkent."

"My whole family read your letter. My wife cried and the tears welled up in my eyes, too. As a participant in the war I particularly value everything that our country's young people are doing to defend the dear motherland. I believe that your letter, Viktor, will be a warning to those who are now dreaming of 'crusades' against the USSR and the socialist countries. "A. Potemkin, Odessa."

"We who are writing to you are young rural teachers from Omsk Oblast. We believe that you will fulfill your duty to the motherland honorably. We are striving to teach our pupils to be like you -- bold, courageous, ready for exploits. "L. Shvartskopf, Omsk Oblast."

"We, the members of the Hero of the Soviet Union N.F. Karatsupa Young Dog Breeders Club, are also preparing for Army service. We are proud that army dogs raised by members of our club are helping in the performance of the difficult service on the country's borders. "Moscow."

"At present I am working at opening up the oil wealth of the northern Tyumen Oblast. I would like Viktor and his friends to know: Boys, if you need us, we are ready to stand beside you. "Vladimir Shevchenko, Tyumen."

"I come from the Tajik city of Ura-Tyube. I served in the Soviet Army and fulfilled my internationalist duty in Afghanistan. During my period of service I deeply understood the strength of our friendship -- the friendship of the peoples of the Soviet Union. I am now working at the No 1 automobile transportation office where I also worked before entering the Army. I have not forgotten and will never forget the lessons that Army service taught me. "M. Nishonov, Tajik SSR."

"Our group discussed 'Letter Home.' We began discussing the fact that some young people prefer to take a passive stance in life. They like being protected by their parents but despite their apparent prosperity, their life cannot be called full-blooded. It is squalid. It is hard to imagine now the heavy price that is paid by our country for each day of peace. All the young people in our group have decided to do everything they can for our motherland's prosperity. "Students group No 123 of the College of Education, Izhevsk."

Another Veteran's Treatment Decried

PM231430 [Editorial Report] Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian on 13 March 1984 publishes on page 2 under the rubric "Following Our Publications" and the heading "According to the Law of Duty" a feature consisting of readers' letters and official replies in response to the paper's 26 February item on the official mistreatment of a Soviet Soldier disabled in Afghanistan. The feature opens with the following editorial comment:

"I. Rudenko's feature 'Duty' published in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA on 26 February generated a large amount of emotional interest among our readers. The editorial office had received 969 comments as of 12 March. The authors unanimously support the newspaper item, ponder the reasons for the callousness and heartlessness which are still encountered in our life, and offer their assistance to the hero of the sketch, A. Nemtsov. We thank all those who have responded to our publication. We publish some of the letters today together with official replies."

The feature then continues under the subhead "Readers' Letters":

G. Tsvyk writes from Ivov:

"The fate of Aleksandr Nemtsov, about whom I have read in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, has literally shaken me. I remember Pavka Korchagin: Indeed, his life also contained a turning point of this kind, and he also mastered his fear and death itself. I believe that Shasha Nemtsov comes from the same stock as Korchagin."

"The Goncharovs" write from Karaganda:

"We sometimes seek heroes only in the past, and dredge through history. Yet they are frequently living alongside us. The example of Aleksandr Nemtsov is the best proof. A man like that will not abandon his friends in misfortune and will fulfill his duty to the motherland to the end."

M. Karimova writes from Alma-Ata:

"The feature 'Duty' published in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA is very thought-provoking. Not least with regard to the lofty title of Komsomol member and a person's attitude toward his Komsomol badge. Sasha Matrosov bore it on his breast; now Sasha Nemtsov bears it. But do all their contemporaries realize what a great pride and honor this is? Do they always have sufficient courage to be honest and principled to the end, even in situations far less distressing than the one in which the hero of the sketch "Duty" found himself? I think not."

"Olya Korotkova and all our family" write from Moscow:

"For many years now we have been living without war. My generation, and I am a year older than Sasha, knows of war mainly from books, movies, and our elders' accounts. Why should we, who have grown up in prosperity, sometimes be unable to heed someone else's pain and fail to rush to the aid of someone in trouble? The feature makes us think not only about our duty to the motherland, but also about our duty to the people who have accomplished exploits for the sake of our motherland."

"Things are hard for Sasha Nemtsov now. Great strength of will and courage are needed to cope with a misfortune to take up a worthy place among the people again. I want to believe that after the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA item he will find many loyal, good friends."

"P.S. Today I sent Sasha a letter and a parcel of books."

T. Nazaryants writes from Beltsy in the Moldavian SSR :

"The day after the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA item, my son and I telephoned Sasha Nemtsov. For a long time the girls from the intercity exchange could not get through to Nikopol, but they did eventually connect us. Sasha was pleased and surprised that complete strangers had decided to take a part in his destiny. At the end of our talk, we told Sasha that in Moldavia he now has reliable, loyal friends, and on the same day we sent him a letter. I believe that friendship with Sasha will help my fourth grader son to grow up a real man."

A.P. and A.N. Cherenushkin write from Smolensk:

"We are pensioners now, war and labor veterans, but we must respond to your article. Sasha Nemtsov and his friend Tolik fulfilled their duty utterly, and proof of this is the order of the Red Star on Sasha's breast. We bow our heads to Sasha and his dead comrade. They are real patriots. People will be proud of them."

Pensioner M.F. Kovaleva, a former plant Komsomol official, writes from Leningrad:

"Sasha's example must be used to educate young people in how to love their comrades and the motherland and defend common interests."

Reserve Sergeant P. Garin writes from Dnepropetrovsk:

"Since reading the feature in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, I still cannot rest. It is very important that Sasha Nemtsov and people like him should know that we are eternally grateful to them for what they have done, that they will never be forgotten by us. I am distressed to the point of tears that at the Komsomol Gorkom and the Nikopol social security department Sasha should have met callous, heartless people who caused him heartache. I believe that the strictest party sanctions should be imposed on them."

The second half of the feature is published under the subhead "Official Replies" and begins with the following letter from V. Boyko, first secretary of the Dnepropetrovsk Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom:

"The Dnepropetrovsk Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom Bureau, having examined the report 'Duty' published in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA on 26 February, believes that it raised important moral problems and rightly criticized the indifference and callous attitude of some officials of the city of Nikopol toward Komsomol member Aleksandr Nemtsov.

"This exceptional, extraordinary fact has been given a principled assessment and steps have been taken to prevent a similar occurrence in the future. The culprits have been severely punished. In particular, A.V. Kapliyenko, first secretary of the Komsomol Gorkom, A.A. Kuzmenko, deputy director of the Yuzhnotrubby plant, and B.F. Zherdev, chief engineer of the crane building plant, have been expelled from the party and dismissed from work. Yu. I. Kovalenko, chairman of the gorispolkom, has been severely reprimanded, with the penalty entered on his record card. N.G. Grebenishchikov, chief of the city social security department, has been dismissed. The question of the incompetence of city Military Commissar N.I. Shevchuk has been raised. Strict party sanctions have been imposed on other officials who displayed a lack of attention toward Aleksandr Nemtsov's family.

"All the questions concerning the material, daily living, and medical services for Aleksandr Nemtsov and his family mentioned in the report have been resolved.

"Considering Aleksandr's state of health, it has been decided to build a house of the homestead type for his family. In accordance with Aleksandr's expressed wish, he will be given work within his power at the Yuzhnotrubby plant and helped in continuing his studies.

"The disgraceful instance of the heartless attitude toward Aleksandr Nemtsov has also been sharply assessed during a discussion of the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA item at the Nikopol party gorkom, the Komsomol gorkom and obkom, and the relevant soviet organs and collectives' party organizations.

"Here it was noted that this incident took place in a city where much has been done to improve the living and daily existence conditions for the defenders of the motherland and the families of dead servicemen.

"The incident became possible as a result of the blunting of the sense of responsibility of some workers, the slackening of control over the fulfillment of party and government decisions on these questions by the party gorkom and gorispolkom, and the manifestation of formalism in the work of some Komsomol committees.

"The party obkom is taking specific steps to ensure that Great Patriotic War veterans, defenders of the motherland, and the families of dead servicemen are surrounded everywhere with care and attention.

"The solution of all these questions has been taken under daily control by the party obkom secretariat. In conjunction with the Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee, the Komsomol obkom is rendering aid to the Nikopol Komsomol Obkom in improving work within the Komsomol and educational work in the city Komsomol organizations.

"It is planned to discuss questions of stepping up attention toward the needs of defenders of the motherland and their families at the party and Komsomol organizations of collectives whose activities are linked with serving the working people."

The feature ends with the following unattributed report:

"The newspaper item was examined at a Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee Bureau session. The editorial office has been informed by V. Moronenko, first secretary of the republic's Komsomol Central Committee, that the decision taken by the bureau notes that the article raised moral problems of exceptionally great importance for the education of young people and Komsomol cadres and the aktiv. Those guilty of formalism and red tape have been strictly punished.

"I.I. Lelikov, secretary of the Yuzhnotrubby plant Komsomol committee, has been strictly sanctioned, with the penalty entered on his Komsomol record card. His further holding of this post has been deemed inexpedient. S.A. Kapersak, Komsomol obkom secretary for agitation and propaganda, has been sanctioned, and V.M. Gavrikov, chief of the sports and mass defense work section, has been strictly sanctioned.

"The Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee Bureau has demanded that the republic's Komsomol committees pay special attention to forming in Komsomol cadres and the aktiv an implacable attitude toward arrogance and bureaucratism and instances of an inattentive formal and bureaucratic approach toward the examination of young people's verbal and written appeals. Steps are being taken in: all oblast Komsomol organizations to improve housing and consumer conditions, provide access to study and work, and involve in public life servicemen released into the reserve for reasons of health and invalidity. Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee workers have been sent to all oblast Komsomol organizations to assist the Komsomol committees in organizing this work.

"The Komsomol members and young people of the No 7 shop at Nikopol's Yuzhnotrubby plant have now assumed patronage of Aleksandr Nemtsov."